



## Wimbledon report 'helps both sides'

BOTH sides in the row over the development of Wimbledon town centre claim an inspector's report on the council's town centre plan has backed their case.

A public inquiry is due to start on November 25 to consider Building Design Partnership and Speyhawk's scheme for the Town Hall site, favoured by Merton council, and the Terry Farrell Greycoat plan to develop Hartfield Road and then the Town Hall site, which has the support of local people.

The Inspector's report on a local inquiry in June, published this week, recommended that the Hartfield site should be developed immediately — if the land could be assembled — and then the Town Hall site.

This destroyed the council's case according to Shoshona Foster, co-ordinator for the local residents.

But Merton's director of development Chris Carter said the land for the Hartfield site could not be assembled immediately and some difficulties over the Town Hall site had been resolved.

## Shark horror

THE owner of a 7m model shark, embedded in the roof of his house, has been ordered to remove it by the local council.

Despite a 3,111-name petition, Oxford City Council has given cinema owner William Heineke six months to remove the model because it violates planning regulations.

## More tall storeys in Docklands plan

AN outline planning application for two ambitious schemes to replace Brunel Power Station in London's Docklands by Richard Rogers Partnership will be considered by the London Docklands Development Corporation this week.

Rogers, who has been hired by developer Rosehaugh Stanhope

# UJA invites Archbishop Tutu to speak at Brighton

THE controversial black South African cleric, Archbishop Desmond Tutu, has been invited to address the UJA conference in Brighton next year.

UJA vice-president Rod Hackney revealed that Tutu had been invited to the "Building Communities" conference at the end of the month, but had been unable to attend due to prior commitments. But Tutu indicated he hoped to accept an invitation to a later event.

Hackney said the archbishop had an interest in, and close contacts with, community architects.

He also knew and understood the needs of some of the most impoverished people in the South African townships.

Hackney was replying to questions from UK Architects

By John Wood

Against Apartheid sent to both RIBA presidential contenders.

The organisation wanted to know why he visited South Africa last year and why he publicly backed South African involvement in the UJA conference next year.

He said he went to South Africa at the request of Reuben Mutoiso, the UJA vice-president for Africa — who as a black Kenyan did not want to visit the country.

While there he delivered an address written by Mutoiso calling on the ISAA to adopt the Wamaw declaration of human rights or the UJA would reconsider the Institute's membership.

On South African involvement in the Brighton conference, he said he wanted to hear what community architects are doing in the country and backed

involvement for this reason. Both candidates were asked about the RIBA delaying recognition of South African schools of architecture.

Raymond Andrews said he agreed with the institute's policy while Hackney disagreed. Andrews said a boycott of building products manufactured by firms with South African interests was imprac-

tical but Hackney said he would back it. But Andrews added that he had sold South African shares because he did not approve of what was happening in the country.

Both candidates said they wanted RIBA money given to South Africa to go to the education of young black architects.

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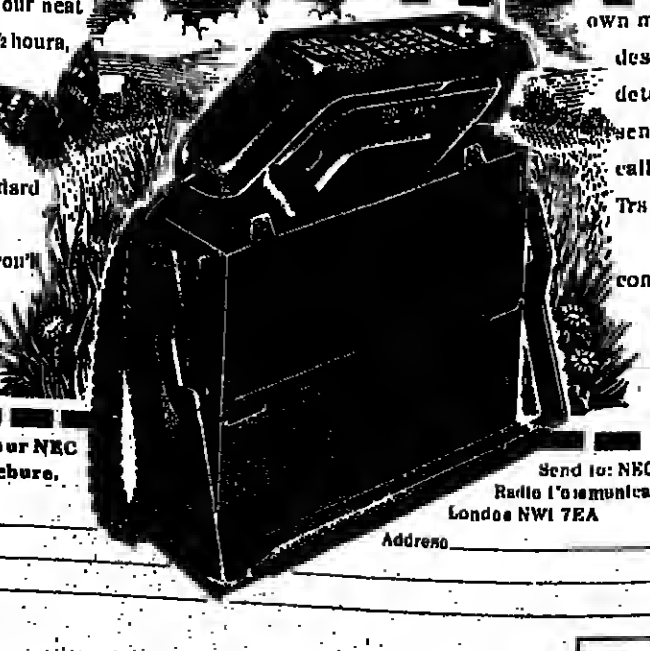
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# The most advanced rabbit rabbit in the field.



## Giant retail proposal

Behind these four floors, in Sutton High Street, is a £30 million retail development designed by Building Design Partnership to be submitted for approval on November 27.

Three levels of shopping — four large stores, 40 medium, 32 kiosks — are connected by a central atrium, rises through levels to a 25 metre glass dome.

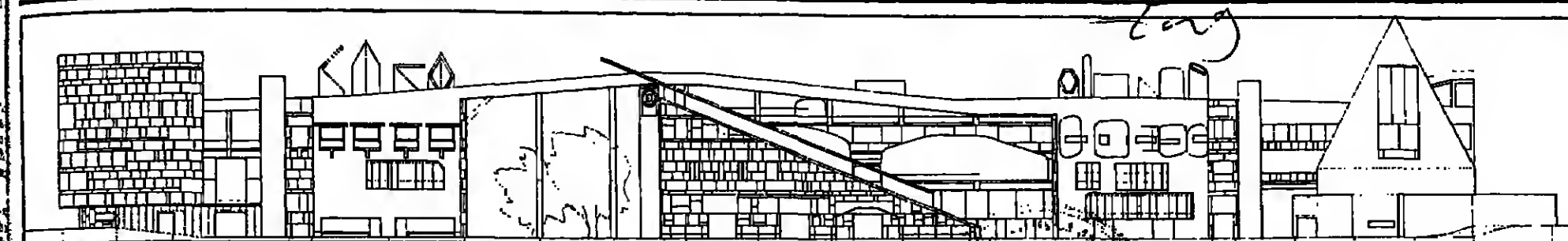
Beyond, a two-level footway, back to a new 750-space car park.

Developer is the Sutton Shopping Partnership (Carm & Co, Brook & Co, Cusack & Co, Sutton Borough).

No 814

The weekly newspaper for the design team

NOVEMBER 28 1986



St John and Mark Pimlott have won third prize in the international competition for the £30 million Indira Gandhi Memorial Centre in New Delhi. First prize went to Ralph Lerner, American-based former partner of Richard Rogers, with whom he won the Cherry Garden Pier competition.

More than 700 teams registered on the brief which required a 70,000sq m complex with arts and crafts centres, a library, a 2,000-seat concert hall and four theatres. The 10th site forms a key part of Lutyens' grand plan for the capital.

St John and Pimlott, both 27, were assisted by Saeed O'Callaghan and work with Jeremy Dixon/BDP, through whom the scheme was entered.

## Georgian scheme revamped

FREDERICK Gibberd Combes have scaled down their controversial designs for a new shopping centre in the heart of the West End, but still face strong opposition from the Royal Fine Art Commission and local businesses.

The architects had prepared a scheme, on behalf of the Co-operative Insurance Society and the City of London Corporation, to redevelop one of the few remaining Georgian areas in Mayfair.

After their scheme for the site, bounded by Avery Row, Brook Street, New Bond Street and Lancaster Court, was rejected by the DOE Inspector, FGCG went back to the drawing board.

Now they have topped two storeys of offices off the top of the 6,827sq m new building, which would have overshadowed the listed buildings to be retained around the perimeter.

"The design still constitutes an overdevelopment of the site," said an RFA spokesman. "We don't feel this scheme is acceptable. The site demands a scheme of more modest dimensions."

The bureau decided to call an extraordinary assembly meeting to consider motions on the two

issues. This will probably be held in Moscow on March 1 to coincide with the next UJA council meeting.

The decision was taken after a speech to the bureau by rebel South African architect Hans

Schirmacher, who discussed the reasons for his resignation from the ISAA and the constitution of the new Institute Place (Professional Levellers for African Community and Environment).

He resigned after repeated attempts to persuade the ISAA to adopt the Wamaw declaration on human rights — making it unethical for any architect to design "pro-apartheid" buildings — were blocked by the leadership.

Under South African law, architects cannot practise unless they are members of the ISAA, but the institute is under the control of the government's minister of community development, and considered by many as being shackled to the apartheid system.

Place's constitution contains commitments to human rights, democratic principles, community service, equal opportunity in education and student participation.

After Saturday's meeting, Schirmacher said he was delighted with the level of support he had received on his latest visit to Europe.

This was in contrast to his last visit when he described the RIBA — of which he is a member — as behaving as if he had architectural leprosy.

Last week he was made a member of the Swedish Institute

## Call to recognise new architects' institute

# SOUTH AFRICANS FACING UJA BAN

THE Institute of South African Architects faces expulsion from the International Union of Architects, following a meeting in London last week.

The UJA's Africa vice-president, Reuben Maliso, urged a bureau meeting of the union's other vice-presidents to carry out the expulsion before the world congress to be held in Brighton next July.

He wanted a new South African institute, now being formed, to be given observer status at the congress.

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The principal south elevation, above, shows (left to right) the experimental theatre, the Vanspada Sompada Museum, conference hall, library, children's museum and puppet theatre.

Architect judges on the competition were James Stirling, Purnima Mahand and former Corbusier assistants B V Doshi and A P Kanvinde.

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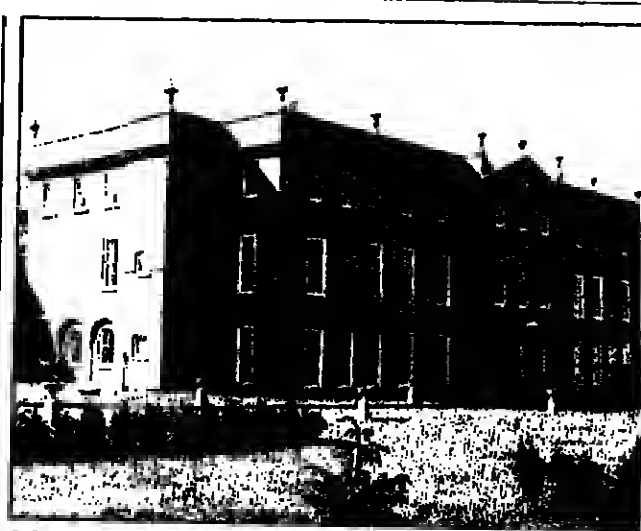




## Building for the future

SHERBAN Cantanzino, secretary of the Royal Fine Art Commission, will chair a one day symposium at the Royal Academy on December 12 in conjunction with the Foster, Rogers, Stirling exhibition. Entitled "Building for the future: London in the year 2000", speakers will include Terry Farrell, Richard Rogers and Leon Krier on London, François Chiolin on Paris, David Mackay on Barcelona and Godfrey Bradman and Jules Lubbock on the politics of planning.

Tickets, including coffee, lunch and an evening reception in the exhibition galleries, are £35 each (£15 for students), available from the Education Department, Royal Academy of Arts, Piccadilly, London W1V 0DS.



Hi-tech conversion finds favour

The conversion of the Georgian mansion at Dogmersfield Park, Hampshire, into the European headquarters of the Amdahl Corporation has won the 1986 world award for environmental planning at the Industrial Development Research Council's congress in Orlando, Florida. Recently opened by Princess Anne, the scheme was designed by the Chiswick-based practice Golder Tooth Purridge.

The mansion and its stables, plus the surrounding landscape is Grade II (star) listed and the LTP scheme had to be a true reconstruction of the historic building. Incorporated are lifts, raised floors and air-conditioning—all the trappings required by a hi-tech multinational company. Consultant architect Robert Adam advised on the correct 'classical' elevational treatment. Developer was Sheffield Investment.

## Ridley steps into inquiry over Canary Wharf plan

ENVIRONMENT secretary Nicholas Ridley has decided to settle a public inquiry into designs for Wood Wharf, because of their possible effect on Canary Wharf proposals. The developer, which was planning to build on Wood Wharf in London's Docklands, has threatened to drag the whole

case through the High Court if a decision is not given in its favour.

In early 1985 Wicker Construction prepared a light industrial scheme for the 1.3ha site for the owners — the Port of London Authority.

The London Docklands Development Corporation indicated that it approved the scheme in principle and advised Wicker on the format of an enterprise zone application. But then the Canary Wharf Consortium announced its

By Alan Thompson

intentions to build a massive financial centre and, Wicker claims, the LDDC snatched its scheme. The corporation is now seeking to compulsorily purchase the land to build a four-lane access road serving the financial centre.

Wicker, which employed in-house architects for the scheme, reconsidered the plans after the road proposals were put forward. The developer re-examined uses for Wood Wharf and the LDDC indicated that in principle, it would consider an office-type development.

Wicker put forward new plans which included a 10-storey office development on the site. A formal planning application was submitted in August 1986 and is still before the LDDC.

In November 1985, there had been no determination of the Wicker planning application and an appeal was submitted.

The appeal was finally heard on October 22 before a DoE inspector. But Ridley has now taken the unusual step of saying he will consider the evidence and give a decision himself.

## 'Reform housing finance'

BRITAIN'S current system of housing finance urgently needs an overhaul according to a report, the national campaign of the homeless.

Henry Aughton, dep. chairman of Shelter and author of *Housing finance—a basic guide*, said: "This country is facing serious and worsening housing crisis borne out by such data as the *Survey of Housing*, and *Family Income*."

"Improvements will come about through reform of the housing finance system rather than through piecemeal adjustments to tenures and rents," he said.

"John Patten's recent attempts to encourage private funding for housing associations, and Neil Kinnock's proposals for a fairer distribution of mortgage tax relief have one thing in common—they fail to grasp the nature of overall housing finance reform and merely tinker with one of the problems."

*Housing finance—a basic guide* is available from Shelter, 157 Waterloo Road, London SE1 Price £3.95.

## Coates lecture

NIGEL Coates, whose practice with Doug Branson is flourishing in London and Japan, will be giving a lecture at the RIBA on December 2 at 6.15pm.

Coates will be talking about some of his recently completed projects in London, including the Jasper Conran shop and in Tokyo, the Parco Bongo cafe, a jazz club and a shop for Takao Kikuchi in the shell of a new building by Tadao Ando. He will also be showing a range of furniture soon to be launched in Japan.

## Design team

A \$15 million interior design contract for the new HQ of Australia's largest building society has gone to a new joint venture between UK-based David Hicks International and Australian architects Peddie Thorpe & Walker.

## Australian firm rescues curtain wall company

ELEMETA, the curtain wall manufacturer which recently went into receivership, has been taken over by an Australian company, Commercial Industries.

Commercial Industries has injected £7 million into the ailing Elemeta, £5 million of which

was spent acquiring the freehold of its new factory at Southall, west London.

The remaining £2 million will be the resurrected Elemeta's working capital. The deal has been agreed with the receiver and Elemeta will be renegotiating its existing contracts.

Ex-managing director Eddie Seddon has been replaced by Andrew Brown, while the new chief executive is Viv Davidson. Davidson says Elemeta will be moving immediately back into the bespoke curtain walling market "reversing Elemeta's decision of 10 months ago".

"We feel the Germans, Swiss and Belgians are getting too much of the market", said Davidson, "we will be going at their markets as well".

● BRIGGS Amasco, part of Tarmac, has bought what was formerly Elemeta Fyrespan, a division of Elemeta specialising in glazed, fire-rated screens, doors and curtain wall systems.

## American practice launches flotation on British market

AMERICAN architects Tribble Harris LJ are about to launch their company on the UK Unlisted Securities Market to raise between £4 and £5 million.

The firm will be the third architectural practice to join the USM, but, capitalised at £14 million, it is considerably larger than its British predecessors, Whinney Mackay Lewis and D W Davies.

Tribble Harris LJ are the latest in a growing queue of American architects crossing the Atlantic to cash in on the Big Bang in the City and London's booming Docklands. And they will be looking for British architects to employ.

Their aggressive marketing stance will be an eye-opener for many British practices. Gerald Li and his two partners are enlarging the equity of their practice and then selling just under one third.

Roughly half the money raised will be ploughed back into the practice, while the partners will pocket the rest. The firm's profits have risen from £294,000 in 1981 to £733,000 last year. The first 9 months of this year produced \$1.4 million.

"We are working on three major contracts over here at the moment," Li told *BD*. One project is "an interior job with a financial services institution", another is "a central London project for a developer client" and "we are negotia-

ting for a project in Docklands", said Li.

A London office is to be set up next year and this could be a springboard for Tribble Harris LJ's ambitions in Europe.

The firm specialises in three main services—designing large mixed use schemes (such as those planned for Docklands), interior design and major office developments.

Li cites the practice's work on Saatchi & Saatchi's headquarters building at 375 Hudson Street, Manhattan, as an example of their burgeoning interior design business. The firm redesigned the top four floors to create an atrium at the top of the 1 million sq ft building.

The firm does not have a recognisable style. "We purposely don't label our style, which enables us to be totally responsible to the market place," Li said.

Li thinks UK investors will be attracted to the firm because it has the stability of the US market place behind it.

By Lee Mallett



Left to right: Gerald Li, Joseph Harris and Michael Tribble.

ing for a project in Docklands", said Li.

## Limited success

POLLARD Thomas Edwards & Associates are going limited on December 1.

The new company, Pollard Thomas & Edwards Architects, will have a share capital of £10,000 and its four associates Harry Christophides, Brian Johnson, Mike Lynch, and Peter Mason are being made directors.

## 'Cashless' development corporations planned

THE Government wants to set up more urban development corporations in addition to the four announced last month.

Dubbed "cashless" because the DoE has no more money available after allocating between £100 million and £160 million over 6 to 7 years for the original four, the new corporations would still have sweeping planning powers.

Although locations have yet to be announced, they would be in areas such as the East Midlands and cities like Leicester, Nottingham and Derby. Opposition from local authorities is likely to be strong, but the corporations are not expected to be set up before the next election.

The corporations would be planning authorities in their own right and have land assembly and compulsory purchase powers.

The corporations form another part of environment secretary Nicholas Ridley's plans to take development pressure off land in the South-east to foster regeneration in the older cities.

## Erratum

ARDIN Brookes & Partners have designed Greycoat's scheme for the Hartfield Road site in Wimbledon, not Terry Farrell as reported last week. The Terry Farrell Partnership have designed Greycoat's scheme for the Town Hall site.

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## Bradman application refused

MULTI-millionaire financier Godfrey Bradman has had his application to demolish a 1930s house in Hampstead refused.

Local protesters consider that Bradman's replacement scheme—designed by architect William Denham—would be too big for the site.

The decision by Barnet councillors to reject the scheme goes against advice from their own officers. The application will be considered by Barnet's planning committee this week.



## Festive feel

London's Trocadero shopping and restaurant complex in Piccadilly has been given the full Christmas treatment, in the form of 4,000 lights and 30 ft trees.

The building's festive facelift follows a £13,500, four week contract by Mansell building maintenance specialists.

## Repair scheme gets cash aid

THE Government has said it will meet half the cost of a new £6 million scheme to help homeowners tackle repairs.

In partnership with the private and voluntary sectors, the Government aims to set up 50 centres offering practical advice

and help, particularly to the elderly, by the end of next year.

Half the agencies will be set up with the National Home Improvement Council and the others started with Care & Repair, Anchor Housing Trust and voluntary bodies.

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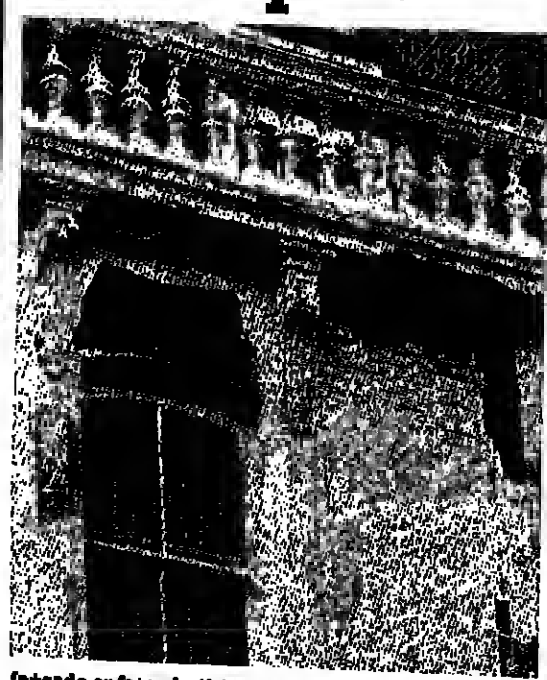
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## Facade Reinstatement and Repair



fa-*cade* or fa-*cade* (fə-'kād, lə) n. 1. the face of a building, esp. the main front. 2. a front or outer appearance, esp. a deceptive one. (C17: from French, from Italian *facciata*, from *facce* face).

re-*in-state* ('ri-'stet) vb. (tr.) to restore to a former rank or condition. —re-*in-state-ment* n. —re-*in-state-ment* n. and (end; stressed end, an) conj. (coordinating) 1. along with; in addition to; boys and girls. 2. as a consequence; he fell down and cut his knee. 3. afterwards; we pay the man and go through that door. 4. (preceded by good or nice) (intensifier) (the) as well as; good and thick. 5. plus; two and two equals four. 6. used to join identical words or phrases to give emphasis or indicate repetition or continuity; better and better; we ran and ran; it rained and rained. 7. used to join two identical words or phrases to express a contrast between instances of what is named; there are jobs and jobs.

re-*pair* ('ri-'pə) vb. (tr.) 1. to restore (something damaged or broken) to good condition or working order. 2. to heal (a breach or division) in (something); to repair a broken marriage. 3. to make good or make amends for (a mistake, injury, etc.). n. 4. the act, task, or process of repairing. 5. a part that has been repaired. 6. state or condition in good repair. (C14: from Old French *repare*, from Latin *reparare*, from *re-* + *parare* to make ready) —re-*pair-a-ble* adj. —re-*pair-a-ble* adj.

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## Ridley urges inner city incentives

GOVERNMENT policy must aim to restore the competitiveness of inner cities, according to environment secretary Nicholas Ridley who was speaking at the "Cities 2000" conference in London last week.

"We must invest sticks and carrots which both take the pressure off the South of England and make the regenerated inner cities attractive to business," he said.

In the aftermath of the urban blight of the last few years, which have focused attention on the "inner city" areas, it has been "almost forgotten that the majority of inner city areas do not conform to that model", Ridley said.

According to Ridley, there is a need to end the emotional temperature and seriously consider solutions tailored to the different problems of each inner city area.

Ridley's policies therefore are aimed at providing a range of

initiatives rather than imposing "a grand national plan".

Reform of the rating system is a major part of Government policy and has been promised for many years. "It is crazy to have a major tax on businesses levied at three times the rate on a business

in a northern inner city as on an identical business in the South-east", he said.

The Government is aiming for a unified business rate which would bring neutrality. Ridley made no mention of when this might happen.

Land price rises in the east work in favour of the cities, and planning policy be used, said Ridley, to encourage developers to build inner cities. This, he said, is assisted by the creation of urban areas, such as enterprise zones, and simplified planning. Ridley says his aim is "designed to yield more buildings", they are used, to yield bones.

## Mercouri announces Acropolis competition

MELINA Mercouri, Greece's minister of culture, has announced a competition to design a £13 million archaeological museum at the base of the Acropolis in Athens.

The competition will be open to architects all over the world and details are to be revealed next year.

The museum is to be built by 1996 and will house artefacts from the fifth century BC Parthenon and other monuments on the Acropolis.

These are crowded into a basement museum on the south-east side of the famous hill or stored away for lack of space.

Mercouri says she is "certain" that the museum will eventually house the Elgin Marbles, for whose return she has campaigned for the last five years.

The new museum, she said, "will assist our crusade to bring the Parthenon marbles home". Britain turned down an appeal from Athens to return part of the marbles last year.

## Commission pours scorn on design for BBC site

THE Royal Fine Art Commission says it has "no confidence" in the BBC's design for its new headquarters at White City.

The commission's scathing attack follows earlier criticism by the RIBA, which urged the

broadcasting corporation to introduce "an architect of quality".

After several meetings with BBC governors, the RFAC agreed that "the unique opportunity of producing a building of great architectural merit for use by the BBC has been missed".

Norman Foster, who was originally hired by the BBC, was dropped after the cost of his replacement scheme for Langham Place touched the £100 million mark.

But the commission says the question of why another major architect was not appointed, instead of the proposed design and build team, has "never been satisfactorily answered".

Design and build, says the commission, is a commercial procedure "which negates the

essentials of true patronage and which is fraught with difficulties and carries a high risk of failure".

The BBC claims that essential cost-cutting, and the need to get the building in use before 1988 had been the reason for using a design and build team.

The initial stages of the design (October 3) have been curried

## Presidents at Portland Place

THIS week's clash at the RIBA headquarters between presidential candidates Rod Hackney and Raymond Andrews — and their more amicable running-mates — did not produce a clear winner, and some RIBA members have subsequently voiced their complaints about the quality of the debate.

Hackney is clearly a more charismatic politician wielding a strong appeal based on a bedrock of rapid change, not to say revolution. But are his policies capable of implementation? Andrews perhaps misses the point when he claims Hackney does not have any policies.

More relevant is the comment that Hackney will have to persuade the RIBA Council of his ambitions for the profession. Council, Andrews maintains, is where the reins of power lie.

Rather like President Reagan's current problems with the Senate, and more recently the House of Representatives, Hackney may enjoy a wider support outside Portland Place but would be stifled from within — at least until the membership of council reflected his approach.

Over 9,350 votes have not been cast and a close contest is forecast. Billed as the presidential election of the century, both sides were expected to come out fighting.

In what was clearly intended as a one-two punch, Andrews' running-mate Fred Roche was to have outlined nine policies stating Andrews' position. He ran out of time. Had he finished he might have painted a much more solid picture of the RIBA's current aims.

Hackney, as iconoclast, slapped criticism all over the RIBA with a broad brush, but lacked the detail that the audience had received, unfortunately only in part, from Roche. Nevertheless he won his applause from the floor because of his clearer, albeit more general presentation. "One of the reasons I'm standing is to restore democracy to this place," he declared.

On the face of it this is a much more attractive statement than to maintain, as Andrew had to, that the RIBA is indeed a democratic place. Hackney arguably won the debate on the seductions of his radical ticket while Andrews struggled manfully to match this by extolling the virtues of progressive change.

This election has at its heart

In the first of two reports on the RIBA presidential debate, Lee Mellett describes their meeting at Portland Place. Overleaf, John Wood interviews the candidates.

two entirely different styles — a point emphasised by Hackney.

Hackney is a arrogant enough to be convinced that he can motivate members — even to the extent of managing to get a full council to meet. For Andrews to claim that Hackney's "seductive rhetoric" is nothing more misses a point only too apparent to rank and file members — that someone who can project a strong personal image is more likely to be able to project the image of the profession.

Really the choice boils down to clear, democratically worked out policies from the Andrews camp versus charisma, idealism and stronger leadership from Hackney.

A long evening (it didn't end until 9pm) had some lively moments, much appreciated by the audience — the Jarvis Hall was about three-quarters full.

Most of these concerned Frenchman slips on the part of the speakers, who all seemed determined to use each other's names by mistake. The classic example was David Rock, who concluded his speech by intoning that at a time like this we needed a man like... Raymond! "like a hole in the head", he eventually adlibbed.

Speeches from the floor included the statutory lecture-cum-question from Jake Brown, and a pointed intervention from ex-president Gordon Graham, who challenged Hackney's assertion that the institute had ignored the matter of indemnity and liability. Rod wriggled. Gordon struck again. Rod managed to keep talking without conceding anything. Could he be a Teflon president?



Hackney — broad brush.



Andrews — democratic.



Rock and Roche — amicable.



## BUILDING DESIGN

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## The Editor's Comment



take note of the time when the heavy lorries travel to meat and fish markets, you generally find it is outside the busy periods. Admittedly in the case of Covent Garden the traffic was difficult, but it is my less congested these days than it was?

It is an unintended irony on the part of many developers and their architects that the life they envisage putting back into the city is precisely the life which they are removing in the process of development. Out with the old, in with the British Tourist Authority.

## Market forces

DO you remember the time when cities meant markets? When the heart of a city could be mapped out by the distribution of the wholesale operations in meat, fish, vegetables, flowers? Some people used to say that if you removed the markets, you removed that heart; at best you performed a bypass operation on a patient which didn't have a problem. We have seen in London the gradual eclipse of the historic markets. First Covent Garden, then Billingsgate, tomorrow Spitalfields, the day after Smithfield. To be replaced with what? The tourists, the out-of-town shopper, the pubs and wine bars whose names and decorations frequently echo, in tawdry fashion, the very markets which they have replaced. Real pubs are replaced by "English theme" pubs. Real grocers are replaced by "designer delis".

Who will oppose these replacements for the guts of the city? The answer is no-

one, because the developers and local authorities now offer up different versions of conservation schemes to appease the lobby groups. Nobody cares about the markets themselves, just what happens to the buildings they used to occupy. At Spitalfields, for example, the options are rival schemes by Richard MacCormac and Leon Krier, and a fascinating battle it is turning out to be. But who is putting the invisible case — that there should be no comprehensive development at all, that the market should stay where it is, and the City of London should be told that they will not be allowed to emasculate Smithfield?

This is a fantasy on my part, but it is curious how certain prejudices about the unsustainability of cities for market functions have become received ideas. For example, it is often said that traffic congestion makes the middle of towns unsuitable for these functions. But if you



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## Watchdog warning

A MANCHESTER sport-watchdog has claimed that plans to build drive shopping malls in the suburbs will destroy cities and villages and leave a "have-nots" gulch between the "haves" and the "have-nots". The group says the 40 per cent of Greater Manchester households do not own cars. And people without transport will be left with no alternative service as traditional shopping centre shops deteriorate.



## Interviews

As the RIBA election campaign reaches its climax, John Wood talks to both candidates

## Andrews hits out hard

WHEN it comes to organisational ability, the RIBA Council has probably made the best choice of presidential candidate.

But to exercise that talent Raymond Andrews has first to beat the supreme media performer, Rod Hackney — and in public relations terms, if not actual votes cast, Andrews has to be a rank outsider.

The contest has been the most bitter battle ever, but Andrews will take none of the blame for that.

"When Rod launched his campaign he publicly sacked David Atwell. That personal attack changed the whole scene and it set off on that footing," says Andrews.

He found this attack on an innocent bystander unacceptable, but since then Andrews has certainly been making the running in the mud-slinging stakes calling Hackney unbalanced, a churlish, a second-

hand car salesman and comparing him to Liverpool militant Derek Hutton and miners' leader Arthur Scargill.

Despite the abuse Andrews claims he does not hate Hackney. "In fact he even proposed me for president of the RIBA several years ago," he recalls.

## Falsehoods

Still, the council's choice says that Hackney's campaign has been based on a series of falsehoods.

He has exaggerated RIBA secretary Patrick Harrison's salary and perks by 80 per cent and misrepresented proposals to increase the institute's membership, says Andrews.

His obvious qualities are his experience in the RIBA bureaucracy and the organisational skill vividly displayed in his stewardship of the 1984 festival of architecture.

"I have displayed the ability to organise a large, innovative event nationwide," he says.

"We ran the world's first festival of architecture, attracting 1,500 events nationwide and £1 million from the building industry, in something which allowed the membership to participate across the country."

"That was the institute at its best. It required persuasion, diplomacy, resolution, determination and persistence over a long period."

He believes the institute needs fine tuning and that he is the man

to do the job.

"Everybody thinks the institute is a shambles — it's not. It needs a radical change like a hole in the head."

"What it needs is sharpening up. Modern skills and techniques in both administration and the political office."

And, says Andrews, the institute needs to sharpen its response to national government, local government and to Parliament.

One area where he admits the RIBA has failed the profession is education.

"With hindsight we made a mistake," he says of council's decision that there were too many architects, eventually leading to the closure of two architecture schools.

He believes the institute needs fine tuning and that he is the man

to do the job.

He believes some of the damage caused is irreparable.

Of the many lecturers who have left the institute he says: "You are not going to get them back. But you may well get young people joining from scratch and this is what the branches are finding."

He feels the way to recruit the students is to foster links between the regional branches and the schools.

He defends the institute's record on membership.

## Members

"We have a higher percentage of architects belonging to RIBA than doctors belonging to the British Medical Association, he says."

## Hackney tries for double-first

IT is a sad commentary on the state of the RIBA that Rod Hackney is classified as a radical candidate for its presidency.

Hackney, a classical establishment figure — friend of royalty, successful wealthy entrepreneur, senior vice-president of the UIA — is hardly in the same vein as, say, Ken Livingstone.

As he says rather churlishly: "We are still working in the 1960s. The RIBA needs to bring itself in to the 1980s before we get in to the next century."

The institute has a grave imbalance of "tired old men" as he calls them, and needs in order for the young if it is to correct this potentially fatal condition.

"Young people would respond if the RIBA backed community architecture instead of saying it does when it does not," he suggests. "For the RIBA to say one of its four platforms next year is community architecture and it only allocates £30,000 of a £3.5 million budget is unbelievable."

And students are unlikely to flock to the institute unless it can persuade lecturers to return and convince them that it is backing education. The key to this, says Hackney, is to persuade government that we need more architects not less, so that the policy of cutting intakes can be opposed. He has not given up hope of saving the schools at North East London Polytechnic and Huddersfield either.

"Where are we going to put the students from Huddersfield and NELP when the other schools are being told to cut their intakes?" he asks. "I think we need more schools of architecture. We need 7-8,000 architects over the next 10 years."

Hackney dismisses criticism that he cannot possibly be president of the UIA and RIBA simultaneously. He reckons the UIA president is largely a figurehead and the post would only take 15-20 days a year. This compares to the 40-50 days he spends presently as Western Europe president (where RIBA president Larry Rolland serves under him on the committee, he notes with a mischievous grin) and the first vice-president of the UIA.

For the RIBA presidency he has allocated two days a week. "I know Larry is a full-time president, but at the end of Larry's term one has to ask what

he would like to see harder for challenges mounted against a presidential candidate."

He suggests the institute should raise 500,000 if he loses the presidency again?

"No, I've done my bit and I'll go back on with the next job drawing board, sailing a party."

He also feels the spotlight has helped the importance of the institute of all proportions a practical power of the office.

"It is council that the body and the president, concerned with holding together," he says.

Of the publicity he has attracted he remarks: "I am largely due to Rod, because he is a character who has hit the headlines in many ways."

## Scorpio

## Leaving the Labour Party line behind

PROMOTERS of the Canary Wharf development in London's Docklands have hired an unusual recruit — Labour Party stalwart Anne Page.

Page — who leaves a high-flying job with the Parliamentary Labour Party — is fully aware that her new post as "community liaison officer" with the Canary Wharf consortium may not outlive her one-year contract.

Closely linked with the environment office, Page's defection to "the other side", which is known to have angered some of her Party colleagues (who appear to believe that employees of the London Docklands Development Corporation should be put up against a wall and shot), should please her old friend Jack Cunningham, architect of the new softly-softly approach to development corporations.

While Labour now admits that UDCs are "quite a good thing", it has remained tight-lipped over the thorny question of the LDDC — sensible in the circumstances as Cunningham is in violent disagreement with more militant members down in Docklands. Page, in line with current thinking, says the time has come for "practical solutions".

As to what the sensible-sounding Ms Page will do in the consortium's plush W1 offices is anyone's guess, but thrusting the Party line down the throat of American developers won't be one of them, she assured me: helping local people get jobs will.

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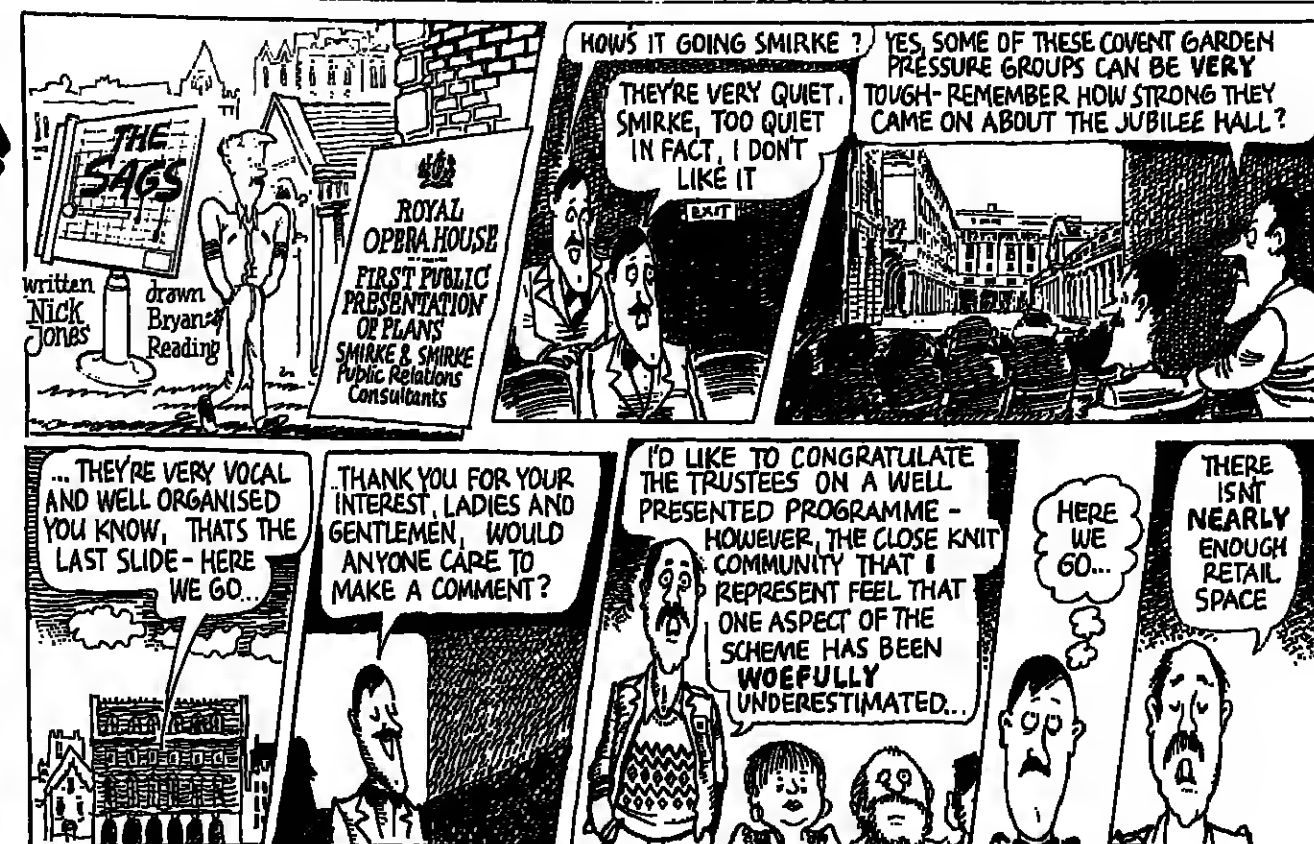
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## The Ritz Hotel

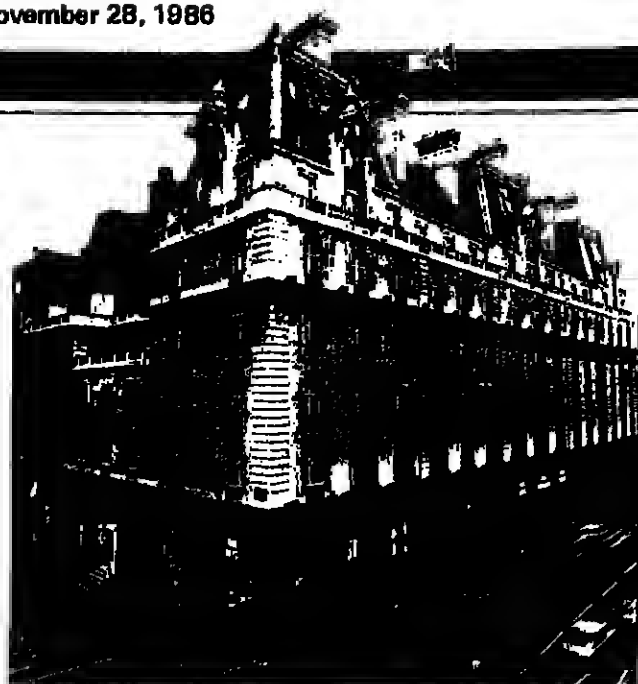
PICCADILLY  
LONDON 1906

Architects: Mewès & Davis

Engineer: S Bylander

César Ritz, greatest of hoteliers, followed the success of Johannesburg, Madrid, New York and Paris by lending his name to the last in the chain — London. Dogged by mental illness from 1902, he had little to do directly with the new hotel beyond insisting on the choice of Charles Mewès as architect. Mewès had already shown his skill as a designer of luxury hotels in the Paris Ritz which opened in 1900. With his partner Arthur Davis he began work on the London Ritz following his work on the interiors of the new Carlton Hotel in Pall Mall.

The site, one of the finest in London overlooking Green Park, was occupied by a large red-brick block of service flats known as Walsingham House, built on



concrete raft foundations some 4 to 5ft (1.219 to 1.524m) thick. The new hotel designed to the most luxurious standards comprised 150 bedrooms in suites, each of two bedrooms, a sitting room, bathroom and separate wc, on six floors facing north on to Piccadilly.

Accommodation for guests' servants was arranged opposite on the south side of the access corridor running the length of each floor. Mewès devoted the ground floor to the lavishly decorated public rooms opening off the Grand Gallery.

## Simpsons

PICCADILLY  
LONDON 1938

Architects: Joseph Emberton

Engineers: Helsby, Hamann & Samuely



"The superstructure was largely of welded steel with a Vierendeel girder in the first storey height on the Piccadilly front. Above were light columns as window mullions and short span joist beams between them for the upper floors.

The London County Council either could not comprehend such a structure or were too conservative to allow anything but the conventional, for they were not prepared to issue a permit. We proposed an independent investigation of the design, but as this would have involved some two or three weeks' delay, the architect instructed us to capitulate. The result was that into three of the five upper floors 80 foot simply supported plate girders had, unnecessarily, to be introduced." Conrad Hamann quoted in AA Journal June 1960.



Peter Jones

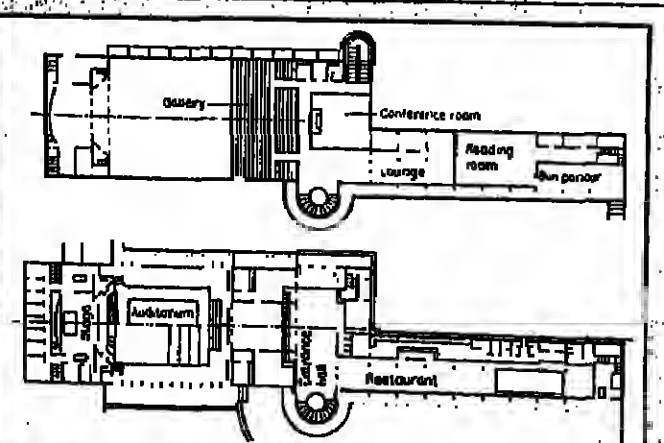
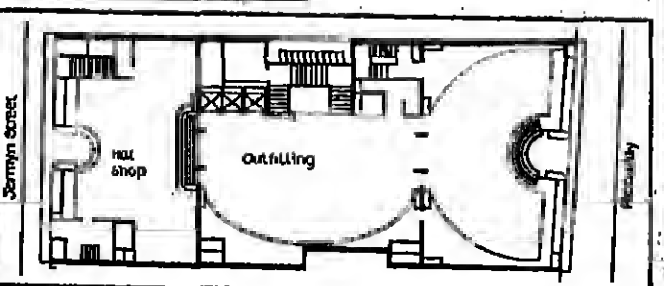
SLOANE SQUARE  
LONDON 1936

Architects: Slater & Moberley, William Crabtree, C H Reilly

Engineer: B L Hurst

The previous shop was an accretion of various premises acquired over a number of years. A partial rebuilding had taken place in 1896. Peter Jones the founder, died in 1905 by which time the business had fallen on hard times. Legend has it that in the spring of the following year, John Lewis walked from his Oxford Street shop to the King's Road with 20 £1,000 notes in his pocket and bought it outright.

Before the decision to use a steel frame was taken, a reinforced concrete external wall system was considered. A trial portion of facade was erected with concrete load bearing mullions at 4ft (1.22m) centres but was abandoned as it took too long to "dry out".



The De La Warr Pavilion

BEXHILL-ON-SEA  
1935

Architects: Erich Mendelsohn & Serge Chermayeff

Engineers: Helsby, Hamann & Samuely

"The best and latest thing that has been done in seaside architecture in this country... The people of Bexhill are to be congratulated on this enterprise. They might have had one of the usual holiday resorts to see... with an erection at the end looking as if it were very ornately covered with stucco." Building, January 1936.

It was the larger than life structure of the seaside which encouraged coastal holiday towns before the war to welcome pioneering attempts to establish the so-called Modern Movement in this country. Examples spring to mind such as the Casino in Blackpool by Joseph Emberton, or Wells Quay Empire Court at Brighton. The most well known of them all, however, must surely be the De La Warr Pavilion at Bexhill-on-Sea.

# Structural Steel Classics

Eighty years of the steel frame in Britain are commemorated today with announcement of Structural Steel Classics, selected by Owen Luder, Bill and Bob Latter of the British Steel Corporation for their outstanding architectural or technical merit. Certificates will be presented to all architects and engineers of the 16 winners. A book is available from BSC Steels, Commercial Division-Sections, PO Box 24, Steel House, Cleveland TS10 5QL for £7 inclusive.

Pentley Park Primary School

WELWYN GARDEN CITY 1948-50

Architects: Hertfordshire County Council (C H Aslin)

Engineer: Ernest Hinchcliffe Hills

"Previously prefabrication had generally taken the form of a single building designed and manufactured as a whole, or of units designed to give buildings of fixed section but unlimited length. The essence of the Hertfordshire system was that it consisted of a set of standard and interchangeable parts which could be assembled in a great variety of ways." Architectural Review June 1952.

With a firm of constructional engineers, the architects jointly carried out the design and technical development of a system which consisted of a steel frame clad with precast concrete wall and roof.



The buildings were initially planned on an 8ft 3in (2.52m) module as recommended in the Wood Report of 1944. Generally satisfactory for primary schools, this large module led to some extravagances in the plans and later buildings were based on a 3ft 4in (1.02m) module.

The simple frame on a square grid had stanchions of four equal angles with angle spacers, welded to a baseplate, supporting lattice beams made up of a channel top and flat bottom member with diagonals of rod welded between. Stanchions were produced in three heights and beams in five lengths.

National Westminster Tower

LONDON 1981

Architects: R & Partners

Engineers: Paul Frischman Partners

At 600ft, the National Westminster Tower, is the tallest building in England in all Europe, and the tallest in the world.

The building consists of a core of reinforced concrete, containing lifts, staircases, washrooms and main vertical service runs. This core is irregular in shape, extending the full height of the building, rising eventually above the highest office floors. It is a rigid structure capable of resisting all lateral wind forces on the building as a whole.

Wrapped round the central core are the office spaces divided into three equal sections. Each section is articulated by a series of vertical fins, starting at a different level on the street, supported on a reinforced concrete core, and springing from the central core at different heights. The fins are a visually interesting means of giving to the building a sense of rhythm and scale since both the proportion of the lower and upper sections are carefully detailed to treat the building as a whole.

Royal Exchange Theatre

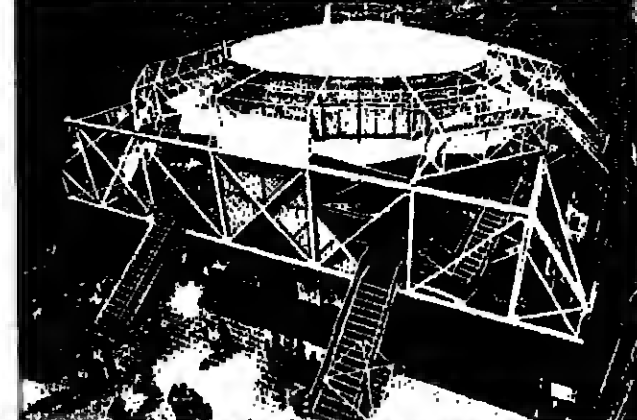
MANCHESTER 1976

Architects: Levitt Bernstein Associates (with Richard Negri)

Engineer: Ove Arup & Partners

Trading ceased in the Edwardian Manchester Cotton Exchange in 1906. In 1974 the building was "listed", a process which (especially for a vast triple-domed structure such as this) entails the embarrassment of finding a new use or ending up with a crumbling white elephant.

Fortunately for Manchester, the "Theatre Company" which had already played a season in the hall during the 1973 Festival, decided — while all around were sceptical —



that it would make a viable theatre; and they set about interviewing architects. Levitt Bernstein Associates were chosen. Four great plans holding up the central dome had enough spare strength to support new giant welded tubular steel trusses spanning 30m and nearly 5m deep. Similar secondary trusses then span between the two main ones, to complete a square on plan. Within the square, seven radial steel roof trusses define the seven-sided space

of the auditorium itself (seven-sided so that for its main use as a theatre-in-the-round no bank of seating faces directly across to another). The main square framework of trusses supports not only the radial roof trusses but two levels of gallery which seat a further 300 theatregoers. Those galleries are hung from the roof on steel rods an inch in diameter.

The present Empire replaced the original theatre which closed and was demolished in 1927. The Royal London Panopticon opened its doors in 1881 on the site of the former Saville House, destroyed by fire in 1865. The new theatre was unsuccessful. After a change of name in 1884 to The Empire Theatre, it became a music-hall staging spectacular ballets. In 1905 this was altered to the production of revues and musical comedies. Once again Britain looked across the Atlantic, this time for expertise in cinema building.

The Empire Theatre

LEICESTER SQUARE LONDON 1928

Architects: Thomas W Lamb, with Frank Metcham & Co

"The interior (is) ... gorgeous, sumptuous, luxurious ... It supplies an atmosphere fit for millionaires in a nominal price of one and sixpence — movies included ...". Frederic B Towndrow, Building December 1928.



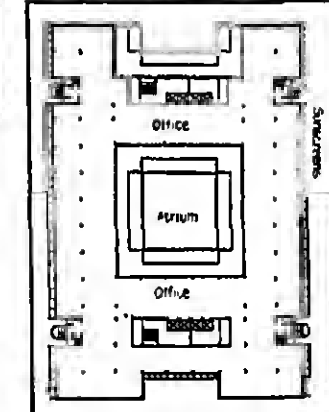
No 1 Finsbury Avenue

LONDON 1984

Architects: Arup Associates

Engineers: Arup Associates

One result of the search for lettable office space in London is that any developer contemplating an addition to the stock must take account of a purely financial calculation, to provide offices in a what is available. With a changed emphasis in the commercial world it is well-served by this speculative office building in the City, designed by



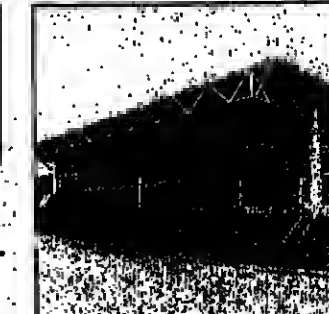
K Arup Associates. In town-planning terms, what has been built already is no more than the first phase of a development in three phases, which ultimately will define two sides of a new urban square.

Greene King Wine & Spirit Store

BURY ST EDMUNDS 1974

Architects: Lyster, Gillet & Harding

Engineers: Conder Southern



The thought of an almost totally blank steel building, covering 4,000sq m and 10m high, to be erected in the mainly brick-built town of Bury St Edmunds was not, understandably, initially welcomed by the local planning authority. Greene King, the client, has its



IBM Marketing Offices

PORTSMOUTH 1971

Architects: Foster Associates

Engineers: Anthony Hunt Associates

main brewery in nearby Westgate Street. It needed to combine close to this brewery the storage and its distribution of products to replace the scattering of existing cellars which were dispersed around East Angles generally.

The building is essentially a cellar, which just happens to be above ground. For the architects there was no escaping the fact that all they were asked to provide was an unobtrusive box with none of the variety of use designers rely on to give legitimate interest. All that they had left to them, on a sensitive site, were the abstract quality of scale, consideration of detail, choice of colouring, and the possibilities offered by landscaping. These limited resources have been convincingly deployed.

At Cosham the team solved many design problems by ruthless simplification. Here, where they have really had a chance to stretch themselves, the early process of simplification has been at work, with the difference that once the overall design had been resolved into one vast shell (nothing could be simpler) all parts of it were carefully planned and worked out to the highest degree of sophistication.

International Garden Festival Exhibition Building

LIVERPOOL 1984

Architects: Arup Associates

Engineers: Arup Associates

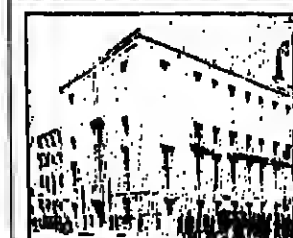
The architects aimed for, and have succeeded in providing, a building which conveys a feeling of celebration, reflecting the idea of festival. They have provided a long, low-lying structure which gently swells out from the gassed earth banks among which it is set, a structure which seems modest from the outside, but which provides a hugely dramatic interior.

Seven and a half thousand square metres of completely column-free space are covered by a long shallow steel-framed barrel vault, formed from a series of



three-pinned trussed arches, this vault being closed at either end by half-domes in steel framing. The vault is glazed in steel-framed translucent polycarbonate sheeting (the biggest use of this material to

date). The half domes are clad in a profiled aluminium sheeting, specially manufactured to have the tapered corrugations needed to cover a three-dimensionally curved surface.



RIBA Headquarters

PORTLAND PLACE LONDON 1934

Architects: G Grey Wornum

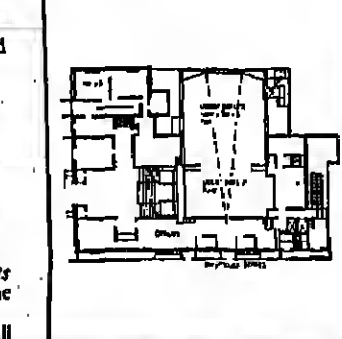
Engineers: K T James & Partners

George Grey Wornum won the open competition for the new headquarters of the RIBA in 1932. Shortly after the competition it was decided a reduction in cost of about £100,000 would have to be made. The result was the omission of two top storeys and considerable amendments of the planning and the exterior design.

The scheme, as built, is planned around the large Henry Florence Hall, two storeys high. Indeed a feature of the design is that all principal spaces and rooms rise through more than one floor. The Meeting Room below the Henry Florence Hall and the Library above are a double height. The central hall containing the "ceremonial" stair occupies three floors.

An article in the *Journal of the Royal Institute of British Architects* for November 6 1934 remarks "the interest and beauty of the interior of the building depends on no small

extent on the clever interrelation of voids of different sizes and proportions". This striking handling of space, the distinctive Portland stone exterior and the satisfying use of a number of high-quality materials in the interior, make the Institute one of the most distinguished 20th century buildings in London.



Heal's

TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD LONDON 1916

Architects: Smith & Brewer

Engineer: S Bylander

The celebrated firm of Heal & Sons, furniture designers and makers, was founded in 1810 by John Harris Heal in Rathbone Place. It moved to the site of its present premises in 1840, then known as Miller's Stables. These premises were rebuilt in 1869, a further rebuilding by Smith & Brewer of the bedding factory and part of the Tottenham Court Road front took place in 1916; in 1938 this frontage was extended southwards by Sir Edward Maufe.

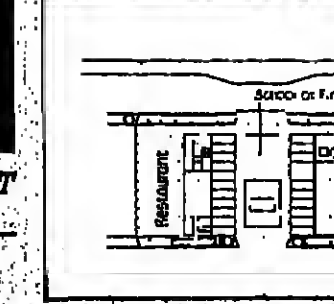


Sainsbury Centre for the Visual Arts

UNIVERSITY OF EAST ANGLIA 1978

Architects: Foster Associates

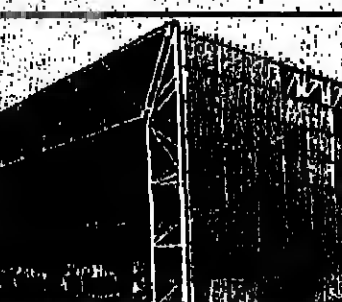
Engineers: Anthony Hunt Associates



The same simplicity and elegance which 80 years earlier had been responsible for the low-budget "temporary" IBM building at Cosham were here given the chance in an expensive permanent building, to allow what they could do to house works of art, rather than merely machines.

At Cosham the team solved many design problems by ruthless simplification. Here, where they have really had a chance to stretch themselves, the early process of simplification has been at work, with the difference that once the overall design had been resolved into one vast shell (nothing could be simpler) all parts of it were carefully planned and worked out to the highest degree of sophistication.

The deep structure forms a service zone, both along the side walls and at roof level. This 2.4m wide space contains lobbies, lavatories, stores, photographic dark room and plant; overhead it houses the elaborate artificial lighting which is adjustable from walkways. The aluminium cladding for the walls and roof, slightly uplifted in its method of joining and assembly, incorporates doors, windows and vents together with adjustable louvers for sun light control.





# More thoughts on the RIBA election

From Sydney Downs

WHEN the Prince of Wales made his famous "carbuncle" speech to the RIBA at Hampton Court, many of us saw it as an opportunity for the profession to respond positively after many of the problems of the post-war years. We hoped that we might debate in private and show ourselves in public to be men of vision, with a regard for at least some of the powerful forces of the 20th century.

Since then, the Prince has repeated the act. We are being asked to show our professional concern for some of the major community problems of our time. It doesn't matter, in the greater scheme of things, what name or label we use for them: it is the direction which is important.

I now sad, therefore, to find a candidate in a vice-presidential campaign indulging in what can only be called a vicious personal attack. The campaign has become dirty — nearly as dirty as the other politicians dishing out the road in Westminster or across the sea in Washington. I had hoped that a feeling of common cause and unity of purpose would, at least, lead to fairness within our own ranks.

An important reaction is left to RIBA members — many of whom I hear very often in criticism of that institute. If they are tired of stale in-fighting, petty criticism and personal politics, I hope that they will show it with a large poll. It would well indicate that there is genuine concern among the profession, and show that architects in general would like to respond positively to the Prince's challenge. Would that they may support those who feel the same.

Sydney Downs  
Manchester

From Maurice McCarthy

THE thoroughly democratic constitution of the RIBA is one of its greatest strengths. The worst outcome of the current presidential election would be for council to be catapulted into an attempt to rig the rules. Larry Rolland, who ought not to comment on his successor during the election, is quite wrong to describe the election process as a "richly comic entertainment". Both Peter Melvin and Nigel Woolner are wrong to want to remove the right to elect a president from the membership as a whole.

Equally wrong are those who want to greatly increase the number of sponsors required for an "outside" nomination. The current requirement is 60, the same number as there are council members. This should be compared to the 100 signatures required to call the special general meeting which would be necessary to remove a president from office (By-law 6.16) — and the result of such a meeting cannot be made the subject of a poll (Charter 8.5(a)).

I have greater faith in the common sense and perspicacity of the membership than those denigrating the election process because they are fearful of a Hackney victory. The majority of the membership will have taken measure of the man himself having seen through the hype. For instance, there is no such thing as a "running-mate". Council appoints the policy committee of its own choosing, and only council can determine policy. No president can unilaterally hire or fire institute staff, or detach the RIBA from its role within the Group of Eight.

In the unlikely event of Hackney becoming president and taking such action as he has

"promised", he would not be protected by the institute's indemnity (Charter 12) and could thus be sued in the High Court. More importantly he could be impeached — and would be.

Maurice McCarthy  
London W5

From Richard Burton

THE profession is in a survival situation, when a few crucial battles need to be won for once, our key contributions valued, our liability limited, our knowledge base expanded and our morale raised. We need a president who can do that, not one who is a continuation of a regime that hasn't delivered.

Using an historical example: Montgomery was appropriate to the situation at El Alamein, not the patrician Alexander.

My vote goes to Rod Hackney at this time.

Richard Burton  
London NW1

From Brim Blackwood

WHEN I read that Rod Hackney had suggested a sacking (October 10) and a reinstatement (October 17), I thought such actions more appropriate to an American presidential election. But he did at least confine his proposed actions to the body of which I, as one of those who nominated him, trust he will be elected senior vice-president.

And so, what — if you'll pardon the pun — I saw as Hackney making a rod for his own back, is as nothing compared with Andrew's reputedly having told Prince Charles to sack Hackney (November 7), and claiming that "his campaign style is similar to that of Derek Hatton and Arthur Scargill" (November 14).

With such inventive directed against Hackney, Andrews has shown just how badly he behaves

under the strain of a mere election campaign — his words being more appropriate to the gutter press than to one seeking leadership of the world's premier architectural institute. One can only draw the conclusion that it is Andrews who is "out of balance" (November 14), and that he should be rejected by the RIBA membership.

Brim Blackwood  
Stevenage  
Herts

From Jeremy Bell

IS the RIBA an institution which upholds and protects standards of integrity and professionalism and which fosters prudence and sound judgment among its members? Are the leaders men of principle who have transcended their own self-interest and are now working for the good of the profession?

No? Then no wonder it is as vulnerable as a ship without a rudder. "Don't rock the boat" pleads commodore Raymond Andrews. No good — it needs a salvage operation.

I would like to see Rod Hackney land on deck as captain and take firm repair action on three main weaknesses:

- Raise the standards of integrity among the leaders of the profession and regain a place of honour within the construction industry.
- Launch an attack on the ever-increasing volley of contractors' claims which offend common sense. These sap architects' earnings and tie them up in endless legal complications. We need a claims register in the RIBA, against which one can check prospective contractors.
- Unify and protect architects against spurious claims for

negligence which are becoming big business. Insurers won't stand up for principle, it is too easy for them to pay up rather than face legal costs. The RIBA should defend its members.

With the ship refurbished and set on a proper course, it would be worthwhile boarding — even at twice the fare.

Jeremy Bell  
Macclesfield

From Michael Hook

THE introduction of "boyver boy" tactics by the increasingly panicky cheer-leaders representing the Andrews' camp is unseemly, will do their candidate no good, and exposes the thin patina of respectability that hides a ruthless and dedicated group of "back-room boys" firmly set on a course of self-preservation.

Presidential election campaigns, monitored as they are by an insatiable media, are dominated by style first and policy second. In this case, it is ironic that Hackney's consistent style, which over a number of years has done so much to get professional issues externalised into public debate, should now be put up as the prime reason for the rejection of this "impudent upstart".

In terms of the contest the central issue is clear — do architects see their future as being one modelled by an institute ultimately dependent on a dying membership, or are they prepared to place their faith in a younger generation of practitioners who quite clearly have the commitment, determination and energy to carve out a future for themselves and their professional colleagues?

This is the fundamental issue that should determine how the votes are cast.

Michael Hook  
London SW4

From John Fidler

THE letters pages of the architectural press are presently littered with the frantic presence of the established camp of Portland Place and a smattering of irrelevant personal abuse levelled at Rod Hackney and dissuade the thoughtful electorate that time has come to change.

The present power-base within the institute appears to be of the younger members taking a bankruptcy of ideas. What now does the RIBA represent? To the architects in the region of a self-centred private club for the London mega-businessmen to the layman — the home of the carbuncle, "sod-you" architecture and Christmas cake competitions!

Recent presidencies have indulged conservation — yet care and maintenance of the built environment has been one of the strongest popular reactions to design this country has ever known. The opportunities offered by recycling buildings and by producing contextual designs worthy of the future have yet to be realised by a profession lead by a vacuum.

Witness for comparison the incredible growth of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors in this area.

New business has been forfeited at the expense of intended bickering. Education is on the rack. Inarticulate communiques — whether social or economic — need our skills and guidance, but where, oh where, are the current clan's relevant strategies for the future?

The Hackney/Rock team offers a dynamic, caring force for our professional future and would urge the undecided to consider their vote in this light.

John Fidler  
London W6

## Fruitless search for a true style

From Geoffrey Broadbent, head of school of architecture, Portsmouth Polytechnic

OF course, Franklin Medhurst is right to say (October 17) that monumental buildings have always been used to express authority: social, economic and religious. The histories of architecture are full of the buildings of power: temples, palaces, fortresses, cathedrals, office buildings and so on. Of course, these are fair game for polemical attack but, like it or not, help the vernacular in this country is also rooted in the Classical tradition.

What is more, the devolution of power, the "small is beautiful" view which Medhurst seems to be advocating is just as unacceptable in certain polemical circles. You'd think that nothing brought "power to the people" more directly than building exactly what they want, having taken the available resources, with no "interference" from professionals.

Yet many Third World architects, such as Roberto Segre of Cuba, find this thoroughly objectionable. For when the homeless organise themselves, "invade" land, scrounge materials and do their self-build, they become, so Segre says, mini-capitalists. How much better, he argues, to house them in the bleakest, high-rise, prefabricated flats you can design to induce such anger and frustration that the urban revolution will be triggered.

As for Herb Meyer (November 7) I'm sorry he thinks I was attacking him. On the contrary, since I too am prone to dash off the odd letter to the press when I have the time, I was admiring his stamina.

But I do wish he'd read what I actually wrote instead of dreaming up things he thinks I should have said and then attacking them. Nowhere, ever, have I described Classicism as "the only true architecture". I don't believe there can be such a thing, and even if there were, it couldn't be Classicism or International Modernism.

As a committed pluralist, I reject the idea of anyone "true" anything although naturally I have my preferences. They seem very close to Meyer's in that like his — and Ruskin's — my spirits are lifted most of all by the Gothic and I too like my architecture to be "organic".

Except that neither Ruskin, nor Sullivan, Wright nor even Meyer seemed to define very clearly what they mean by "organic". They give ambiguous descriptions: it seems to look like forms from nature (Ruskin, Sullivan), to grow like natural forms (Sullivan, Wright), to be "all of a piece" in some unspecified way.

I prefer Schopenhauer's description: I even quoted it in my inaugural lecture to the effect that, "The whole mass of the building, if left to its own devices would collapse to a mere heap or clump, tied... to the earth, to which gravity continually presses... But this tendency, this force, is resisted by architecture... (so)... the beauty of a building lies in the obvious adaptation of (each) part... directly to the stability of the whole (so that)... the position, dimensions and form of (each) part must have so necessary a relation to the whole that if any one part were taken away the whole would fall to pieces..."

That's a precise description, for me, of what I find most profoundly satisfying about the Romanesque in which, as Schopenhauer says, "The arch must support itself, and can only fulfil its obligations to the earth through pillars, and so on." So for me the best of the Romanesque represents the purest, the most highly integrated and therefore the most "organic" architecture of all, which is not the same thing as claiming it to be "the only true" one. But I do not seem to be alone in preferring the thick and heavy to the light, the thin and the transparent. Gaudi designed in this way and even Le Corbusier was working towards it in such late works as the Jaoull Houses.

Thick wall construction has so many advantages in terms of thermal capacity, sound insulation etc, so the more one departs from it towards lightness, thinness and transparency, the less "organic" the architecture becomes and the more problems one seems to raise in terms of stability, durability, climate control and so on.

Such structures may be very fine for plants, but they cause considerable problems for real live human beings. Which is why I am fascinated by the worldwide attempts to move away from lightness, thinness and transparency towards more durable architecture again. You can see the transition very clearly in the current Academy exhibition with Stirling's "thick and heavy" rooms contrasting very strongly with the "light, thin and transparent" ones of the others.

Of course there's more to Stirling's Staatsgalerie than any mere "flavour of the month". There's also the satisfaction of a highly complex brief to do with circulation, the lighting of the galleries and so on. It's the same with Johnson's AT&T in which he had to satisfy meticulous requirements to do with energy conservation, appropriate conditions for working with visual display units and so on. Requirements such as these generated the forms and the fact that superficial critics have latched on to the "Classical" forms to condemn it reveals how little they know, or care, about building performance.

It is hardly surprising that in their attempts to break the stranglehold of International Modernism, some architects should opt for Classical detail, others for vernacular and so on. Most of what they do seems to offer rather more in the way of durability, climate control and so on than Modernism ever could, which is why I find their work so interesting. But applauding their intentions — which I do — is one thing, but it is a very different thing from suggesting that any of them offer "the only true architecture", which is why I have never done that.

Geoffrey Broadbent  
Portsmouth

From the womb of CAD

From Tim Eaton, Cambridge Computer Drafting Company

RICHARD Twinn, in preparing his 14-page special report (November 14), came to Cambridge, the womb of CAD, and to his surprise found himself only at Forum's door. They have ventured recently into mid-budget CAD and no doubt they invited him there. If he did not penetrate Cambridge further it is Cambridge which should express surprise.

We have operated a GDS system in Cambridge since 1981, first as Twist & Whitley, and following reorganisation in 1984, as Cambridge Computer Drafting (CCDC) jointly with Archimage Architects, close by in Ely.

CCDC acts as a draughting bureau for several of the East Anglian practices and other construction organisations in southern England. The next meeting of the regional GDS user group will be in our office. Like Scott Brownrigg & Turner, we also enjoyed a friendly relationship with Applied Research of Cambridge (our offices were only 200 metres apart) until McDonnell Douglas put the dampers on their GDS bollocks.

more versatile software at lower cost, by linking into a central system by landline or microwave. This has the added benefit of leaving the system management with the more experienced firm and allowing the user to concentrate on his primary task of producing drawings.

Tim Eaton  
Cambridge

## Disneyland nonsense

From Stephen Meredith

YOUR news item, "Desert mall at Sandwell" (November 7) well illustrates the cultural and philosophical bankruptcy of our times.

We import into the West Midlands a piece of irrelevant make-believe to placate the emotions and profit from a society whose real needs relate to employment or its 1980s substitute. Here is yet another all too common non-solution such as theme parks, garden festivals and like.

What people need is not this sort of Disneyland nonsense but

some real opportunity to control resources and manage their own environment.

If industry is never going to offer full employment, there is only one solution and that is for people to club together to acquire land for growing food. The gaining of some economic independence thereby is just the first step in a process whereby they can eventually be in total control of their lives rather than the powerless recipients of imposed escapism that only encourages the present non-working system.

Stephen Meredith  
London SW19

## Punch drunk practice

From Ron Galloway

I WRITE with reference to the Edinburgh article (November 14), in which appeared two large photographs of our recent conversion of a warehouse in the Cowgate for the 369 Gallery.

As a practice we are now punch drunk from the number of occasions your brethren of

the lay press have written about our buildings, with no credit being given to ourselves, but for it to happen in the architectural press, I find insulting.

Incidentally, as an architect I was instrumental in introducing the 369 Gallery to the building in question, thereby initiating the revival of this building.

Ron Galloway  
Edinburgh

## Architects abroad

From Stephen Hurre

LAST year you published a letter from David Snell inviting people to join him on a trip to Russia. I went on this tour, which included visits to Moscow and Leningrad in the north and Tbilisi, Erivan and Baku in the south. We received a very hospitable reception from the many people we met, including the local union of architects.

Thanks to David and I have organised another tour — which would be his fourth — I recommend it to your readers.

Stephen Hurre  
Hampshire

## Roping off the cavity

From K Roland Sallard

ERIC Ambrose's light-hearted proposal (Letters November 14) of ending the job on Friday at lunch-time to avoid operatives "brooming" the debris on the slab into the cavity, could well be achieved by resolutely commencing the following Monday morning with a 50mm diameter rope laid along the cavity and supported across the ties placed to catch mortar droppings, throwaways etc, and raised every sixth course.

Such an arrangement would have the desirable advantage over a rigid cavity battens as it, by error — or possibly by the sheer speed and pace of the brickies — it was built in, then, because of its flexibility, the rope could quite easily be pulled outwards and upwards at one end and re-laid in its proper position for the next lift without disturbing finished work. It has the added advantage of being easily stored away on site when not required.

Such was the habit and successful practice of one elderly

brickie foreman when the rate was 4/6p per hour and the gang did as they were told or they would be off and away within the hour.

Incidentally and quite irrelevantly, the grandson of the brickie foreman in question is today the chairman of a firm of national size building contractors; family discipline has its rewards.

Roland Sallard  
Thames Ditton

## Dedicated professional

From Ian Colquhoun, city architect, Hull City Council

I WAS extremely sad to read of David Atwell's pending resignation from his post as director of promotions at the RIBA. I have worked with him since he took up his post and I can say without hesitation that he is a first-class professional officer, dedicated to the cause of promoting architecture and the profession.

The lack of follow-up after the launch of the "Decaying Britain" campaign was due to lack of support and anyone, no matter how committed and

experienced, would have found the same problems with launching the Hull Cudat.

The RIBA needs people like David and I sincerely hope that he will reconsider his decision and that he will receive support and encouragement from everyone at the RIBA to continue his work.

Ian Colquhoun  
Hull

## Confidence trick

From Brian Anson

THE "Building Communities" conference is nothing but a confidence trick played on many of those who suffer in today's environment. The average punter will not get much change out of £200 for attending this jamboree — that's more than six weeks' dole for those who are out of work and suffering slim conditions.

So naturally not many of them will be there and those few who do attend by getting the cheaper (though still expensive) tickets will be a minority who have betrayed their communities by meekly accepting the patronage of the powerful.

Of course, the event is really nothing more than a powerful platform for those who have reinvented "community" architecture (without the struggle) in the past decade. "One thousand delegates expected" — the blurb goes — how many of them will have first-hand experience of beleaguered community life?

It would be far better if your Scargins and your Windos, your Hackneys, Hunts and Wilsons — even the broth of a boy from Derry city himself — diverted all that loot to enable

the community people themselves to gather and do something about their problems. It would not only be more just — it would be more useful for observers and certainly more interesting. That is what we have done in the (exiled) TCPA planning ad unit by working hard to bring 15 people from Belfast and Derry to our event.

The Divis exhibition (which the "Building Communities" conference had the cheek to put on their programme without permission) is, itself, nothing more than inert boards with images; it only comes alive when the Divis people are there. Our event, by the way, is free.

Brian Anson  
Surrey

## Poultry design

From Ken Powell, secretary, Save Britain's Heritage

YOUR trenchant editorial comments are always worth reading and your attack on the "squabbling wallies" of the City of London is no exception. Terry Farrell's Alban Gate is one of the most positive proposals to come before the City for years and they have rejected it. No wonder that Peter Rees was "unavailable for comment" — he must be squirming with embarrassment.

In the next month or so the City will finally have to make up its mind about Peter Palumbo's Number One Poultry. I would like to think that it will be out of this scheme too. It is relatively small, clumsily designed, and would destroy not a worthless monstrosity like Lee House but one of the few areas of good

Victorian townscape left in the City. Rejecting Palumbo's proposals would be quite consistent with a rethink on Alban Gate.

There is room for large-scale new development within the City boundaries and London Wall is an obvious place to put it. In contrast, the heart of the City is not the right place. Moreover, there is still the chance for Palumbo to pick up Farrell's Mansion House scheme, which even he had to admit, at the 1984 inquiry, was commercially viable. If the City approves Palumbo's plans, it will again be acting with a supreme lack of good sense.

Ken Powell  
London SW11

## Subsidence in Sutton?

From Rebecca Cadie

I IMAGINE there might be a problem letting the shop units in the Sutton High Street development (November 21). Is this due to subsidence or a badly trimmed drawing?

Rebecca Cadie  
London W10

The latter. Our apologies — Ed.

## Gender registration

From Patricia Stewart

I WAS surprised at your piece entitled "Gender record outrage" (November 14) although it was certainly an eye-catching headline.

I am seeking the inclusion of information on gender on Arecuk forms solely to enable statistics to be extracted concerning

the number of women within the profession, and for this I have obtained RIBA Council's support.

It is a purely technical measure and rather unexciting to the nfrad.

It has nothing whatever to do with any debate on whether Arecuk should include titles (Mr, Mrs, Miss, Ms) on registration forms. Nor has it anything to do with alleged discrimination against women architects.

Patricia Stewart  
London W1

## Flying the flag

From David Brockhurst

THE article on next year's International Union of Architects "World Day of Architecture", and the proposal for RIBA to fly a flag as a gesture to this important event, gave me the giggles all morning.

We are told that the RIBA could make more of a contribution for the following year. Although it would double the expense, can I suggest an equally original idea of two flags for 1987?

David Brockhurst  
Coventry

## Taking credit

From Frank Newby, FJ Somerville & Partners

IN your issue of November 14, you failed to mention that we were structural engineers for the Kiln Farm project award. At we out of favour these days?

Frank Newby  
London NW1

Certainly not — our apologies for the omission.



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## Exhibitions

# GRAZ ROOTS

Work by the controversial Austrian architect Günther Domenig is the subject of an exhibition at the Architectural Association until December 6. Tim Ostler reports.

WHEN Günther Domenig flew into London to attend the opening of his exhibition at the Architectural Association, wild explosions burst forth outside and fires raged across the capital.

He had arrived just in time for Guy Fawkes Night. It was an appropriate enough entry for an architect whose own house, being built to resemble a pile of rubble at the foot of a hillside, is intended to reflect the energy released when boulders tumble down a mountain and shatter into fragments.

Domenig was due to give a talk to accompany his exhibition, but pulled out at the last moment. When I asked him why, his answer was characteristic. He had, after all, given a talk to AA students only a year or so ago, so what was there that was new to say?

Thanks to his most famous creation the Zentralsparkasse (or Z-Bank) in Favoriten, outside Vienna, Domenig is already well-established as the middle-aged enfant terrible of Austrian architecture, an alien bursting messily out of the stomach of Austria's dominant "Fiederho-

sen conservatism".

His style is a long way from his more cosmopolitan contemporaries in Vienna. Because of its mountains, Austria remains psychologically split between valleys, to the extent that an architect like Domenig can be working in the capital, only 100 miles from the capital, and yet still feel isolated. This was an advantage when Domenig came to design the Z-Bank as, unlike Viennese architects, he finds no difficulty in freeing himself from the legacy of Hoffmann, Loos and Wagner. In a reference to Vienna quoted in the catalogue to the exhibition, he says: "I have always associated it with a death-wish and a feeling of decay: it's a place in which to destroy oneself".

This observation seems at first ironic, in view of the

menacing appearance of much of Domenig's work. But the kind of self-destruction to which he refers has little to do with the spectacularly explosive metaphors displayed in many of his buildings. Instead of the complex and seductive frivolity of the Viennese school, the sensual connotations of his work are direct, impolite and personal: the Z-Bank looks a little like a suburban avalanche — or perhaps a film, frozen in mid-frame, of a bomb-damaged building being pulled down.

The banking hall inside, meanwhile, is a sort of cabinet of Dr. Domenig. The impression is created that for Domenig, it is excessive refinement and not anarchy which is the true enemy of life; elsewhere, he has designed a café inspired by a saying from Kierkegaard: "As long as I

have the arrow in my breast, I am living."

This kind of romantic sentiment is not something commonly associated with the Teutonic manner. But the Austrians, do not share the German or Swiss feeling for precision. According to Domenig they are the sloppiest and least precise of all German-speaking cultures, and dreamers in the Eastern European tradition. It is also not generally appreciated that until the mid-50s, Austria was occupied by Soviet troops. The proximity of the Iron Curtain continues to hover with the national consciousness, and a sense of melancholia pervades the Austrian soul.

Architecture is one of those arts where it's possible for practitioners to be quite success-

ful without ever having to expose their true personality to public view in any meaningful way. But Domenig's prime aim is the exploration of the emotional element in architecture: faced with continents about the lack of right-angles in his work, his reply is: "People aren't square. Their emotions aren't square either." In his buildings, Domenig attempts to come to terms with, and express, his own childhood perceptions of archi-

ture. It is arguable that an architect has no right to adopt such personal tactics unless it's for the purpose of designing his own house. If so, Domenig has the perfect excuse in the case of the centrepiece of the exhibition, the Steinhaus ("Stone house") near Steindorf in Carinthia. It is a house he is building for himself which will double as a study centre for about 20 people. This project is a labour of love; the personal element goes very deep indeed, as he inherited the site from his grandmother, and his known the landscape since childhood.

It is interesting to speculate whether inhabitants of mountainous countries possess a different sense of space from the kind enjoyed by people from less dramatic landscapes. Physical movement in the Alps is likely to be composed as much of vertical or of horizontal vectors: Fredi Murer, director of the Swiss film "Alpine Fire", explained recently how he had attempted to reflect this by panning shots vertically instead of horizontally.

It is this very three-dimensionality of the landscape that



Detail model of the Steinhaus.

strikes the visitor to Switzerland or Austria; and the extent to which the Steinhaus reflects the landscape is no accident. The Z-Bank was biologically planned like splintered glass, its external forms were inspired from those of some mountains and those of traditional architecture with aid of a computer program devised by Domenig's collaborator Wolf-Plötzig. In Domenig aims to recall the boulders that break off the mountain and tumble into valleys, like icebergs from a glacier. But these boulders, interpreted as if the process of rupture releases a burst of energy, like the spinning of a atom.

The Steinhaus is only the most marked example of Domenig's preoccupation with an architecture that is "the projection of inner life upon the exterior". Opening the exhibition, Peter Cook referred to the peculiar repressed energy contained in the drawings. Domenig also described as a "repression" the intensity, in which Domenig attempts to chart his

conscious.

An architect's contemplation of his early subconscious perceptions of architecture can very easily become mixed up with more conventional Freudian complexes and, like that other architectural individualist Panch Guedes, Domenig has invented a fantasy world of his own to make sense of the various bizarre manifestations of his art. Memorable monsters are born as side-effects of the creative process. His most grandiose conception, now on display for the first time in Britain, is the bird Nixnutznix. Built of 2,500 parts, and 7m long, this metal flying creature looks like a combination of Concorde, a pterodactyl and a huge fountain-pen, and is an expression of a personal obsession going back to childhood: as a child Domenig always wanted to be able to fly. It was originally developed for the entrance of another branch of the Z-Bank. Domenig became so preoccupied with it, however, that he bought it back and has allocated it a room in the Steinhaus.

But, lest Domenig be dismissed as an impractical fantas-



Banking Hall in the Zentralsparkasse, Vienna.

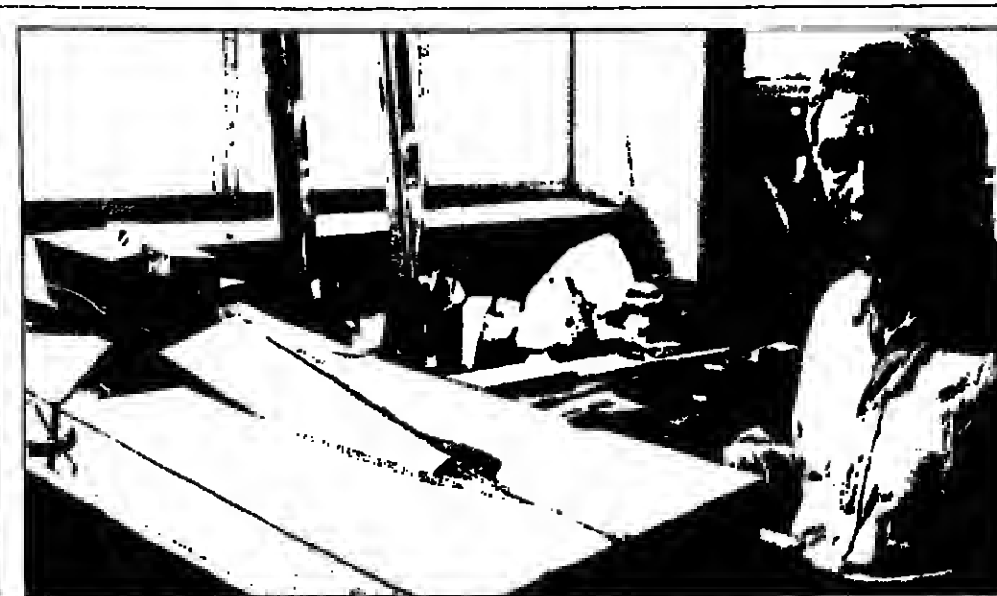
tic architect, it should be stressed that one of the most remarkable aspects of Domenig's jagged architecture, is the thoroughness with which it is engineered.

However tentative the drawings, we can be sure that the Steinhaus will be detailed with conviction, if not with the dispassionate objectivity of a Foster or a Meier.

Domenig does not work from forms that materials dictate. He decides on the form and then works out how to build it, starting with free sketches, then models, before moving on to exact drawings. Free forms are analysed and broken down into a systematic order of triangulated planes that enable it to be realised in steelwork of form-work.

He does not seem to be the contemplative sort, arguing strongly for "creative and emotional participation" between architect, users and work-force. "I believe one should use one's powers of observation actively, flexibly, purposefully, even aggressively," he says. Or, to put it another way, he believes in "climbing a mountain instead

## Exhibitions



Günther Domenig with a model of the bird Nixnutznix exploding from a stone.

penetration in more conventional architectural terms, the AA exhibition displays drawings and models of two competition-winning designs for buildings at Graz Technical University: the faculty of law, economics and social science, displaying the same shard-like formal intervention as Domenig's "Rikki Reiner" boutique, and the faculty of architecture and engineering, in which the clashing geometries are all-pervading.

Domenig has recently been acclaimed as a pioneer of what some call the "new spirit" — as if what the world needs now is yet another new architectural festi-

on around which the young and impressionable can cluster. Although confessing himself to be excited by some of the splintered architecture now snatching clients all over Europe, his final word is hard to answer: "I would prefer it if architectural critics and art historians just wrote poems about my work."

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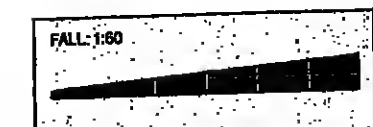
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## Building Communities

## BUILDING HISTORY

Nick Wates and Charles Knevitt chronicle the rise of community architecture.



Conference organisers: Nick Wates, Caroline Theobald, Jim Snodden

## "Tomorrow's World".

1978 Rod Hackney elected to RIBA Council with the second highest number of votes as a national candidate.

Radical New Architecture Movement declares that community architecture must be a local authority service.

RIBA presents the case for a National Community Aid Fund for enabling community organisations to pay for professional expertise to Reg Frieson, Minister for Housing and Local Government. Patrick Harrison, RIBA Secretary, said "this could be the most important extension of the profession's role in society since the war".

Issue not acted on by Government. 1980 Design co-operative formed in

Manchester. Founder members include Ian Finlay.

1981 Riots in Brixton, South London; Toxteth, Liverpool; Moss Side, Manchester; St Pauls, Bristol; Handsworth, Birmingham.

1982 "The Architect as Enabler" community architecture conference held at the RIBA, the first occasion on which residents have been invited to speak at the institute.

Formation of Matrix Community Design Service, Cardiff, Community Land and Work-space (CLAWS), London & Heat Development, Dundee.

1983 Wester Hailes Community Design Unit set up on a 1960s peripheral council suburb outside Edinburgh.

1984 Formation of CTAC (Northern Ireland), Community Networks, Lambeth Planning Aid Service and Technical Services Agency, Glasgow.

1985 March: Monthly column on community architecture started by Nick Wates in *Building Design*.

March: Dr Robert Runcie, Archbishop of Canterbury, endorses community architecture in a speech.

April: Ned Waller, co-ordinator of Community Design Service, Cardiff elected chairman of ACTAC.

May: RIBA CAG hosts reception for financiers to encourage private sector investment in community architecture projects.

June: Berthold Lubetkin, the pioneering modern architect, attacks community architecture in the RIBA president's first invitation lecture.

July: Royal Society of Arts conference on Practical Conservation: The Third Force, London.

July: Shelter's new director calls for dweller control to become the "fundamental principle" of housing policy.

September: Riots in St Pauls, Bristol and Handsworth, Birmingham.

Riots at Broadwater Farm, North London. 240 injured. One policeman killed to death.

December: Archbishop of Canterbury; Commission on Urban Priority Areas publishes *Faith in the City: A Call for Action by Church and Nation*.

1986 January: Secretary of State for the Environment, Kenneth Baker, says he hopes community architecture will become the "mainstream" of the profession.

February: RIBA policy committee refuses to endorse the nomination of Rod Hackney as president of the UIA for 1987, counter to the recommendation of its UIA sub-committee.

Policy committee's decision endorsed by council in May.

March: Rod Hackney gives keynote paper on Building Communities to Tory Reform Group annual conference, Oxford.

March: The Labour Party's shadow housing minister promises new emphasis on co-operative rather than municipal housing.

June: Launch of *The Limehouse Petition* to halt a discredited £70 million scheme for Limehouse Basin in East London by private developers and to replace it with a show-piece urban regeneration project.

Signatories include: Dr David Owen, Leader of the SDP; Dr John Marks, Chairman of the British Medical Association Council; Reverend Jim Thompson, Bishop of Stepney; Lord Kennel, President of the Architecture Club.

July: Christopher Jones, head of degree course, Hull School of Architecture and member of Architects and Builders Co-operative (ABC) Hull, Ltd, elected as chairman of ACTAC.

September: RIBA's second CUDAT in Hull abandoned after widespread allegations of mishandling by community groups, ACTAC and Rod Hackney.

October: Northern Ireland Housing Executive agrees to demolition of Divis Flints following campaign by residents helped by Town & Country Planning Association.

October: Rod Hackney launches campaign for RIBA presidency fording election.

October: Lord Scarman revisits Brixton five years after his inquiry report and says that more needs to be done.

October: Tom Woolley appointed as Head of Hull School of Architecture.

speech at the RIBA's 150th anniversary celebrations at Hampton Court Palace. Media reports his references to a "monstrous caruncle" (National Gallery extension) and a "giant glass stump" (Mansion House office block) instead.

September: The first of a series of private dinner parties on architecture hosted at Kensington Palace. Includes Hackney as a guest. Further dinner planned for 1985 on architectural education and institutional funding for inner city projects.

1985 February: Visits Black Road, Macclesfield, and the Liverpool housing co-operatives.

February: Addresses the Institute of Directors' annual convention in London; calls for commerce, industry and professions to help "build up socially and financially stabler communities" and warns of "the potential long-term problems of social unrest".

May: Sends message of support to launch the RIBA's pilot CUDAT project in the St Mary's Street area of Southampton.

August: Accepts invitation to be the Patron of *The Times*/RIBA Community Enterprise Award Scheme.

October: Becomes President of Business in the Community for a five-year term.

October/November: "Divided Britain" controversy over remarks attributed to the Prince by Rod Hackney in a conversation on the Royal train.

December: Asks RIBA to prepare inner cities report.

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March: Makes an unannounced tour of run-down post-war London housing estates in a Tower Hamlets Community Transport van and visits the Limehouse Development Group's offices. Tour ends with a public visit to Lea View Estate, Hackney, East London.

April: Opens the Queen Street Mill project and visits Weavers' Triangle, Burnley; two community architecture/enterprise schemes.

June: Visits Community Design Service, Cardiff. Presents the first annual *Times*/RIBA Community Enterprise Awards at the RIBA in London. Public reconciliation of the Prince and Rod Hackney following the "Divided Britain" controversy.

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## PIONEERING PROJECTS

1969 Shelter Neighbourhood Action Project (SNAP). Liverpool installs resident architect to help a community group.

Ralph Erskine sets up an office in a former undertaker's shop in Ilker, Newcastle and involves residents in slum property in designing their new council homes.

1971 North Kensington Amenity Trust formed as partnership between voluntary organisations and the local authority and embarks on multi-million pound mixed-use redevelopment of land under an elevated motorway. Architects: Franklin Stalford.

1972 ASSIST formed in Glasgow pioneering rehabilitation of tenements involving the residents and leading to development of community-based housing associations.

Interaction opens first city farm built on derelict site in Kenilworth, London.

First working community set up at 5 Dryden Street, London, by Rock Townsend.

1974 Completion of Ilack Road No 1, Macclesfield; the first self-help General Improvement Area. Architects: Rod Hackney & Associates.

Birmingham City Council embarks on rehabilitation programme for substandard private terraced housing by setting up locally based project offices.

Covent Garden Forum established; the first non-statutory neighbourhood council in the country with representatives from all sections of the community.

Wirksworth Project launched by the Civic Trust which funded architect Gordon Mitchell to set up a loan base in the town and work with all sections of the community.

1979 Greater London Council's PSSIAK scheme at Adelaide Road, Camden, North London, occupied by tenants. The first SAR project in the UK (shell housing within which tenants have complete freedom of internal layout).

Ludgvan Jubilee Hall completed in Cornwall; a village community centre conceived and partially constructed by the local community with architect Robert Poynton & Associates.

1981 Completion of Lewisham Self-Build Housing Scheme using the Walter Segal system.

Launch of Derry Inner City Project to rejuvenate the city centre using self-help and a trust involving all sections of the community. By 1986 500 people were employed on the Derry project.

1982 The Weller Street Co-op, Liverpool, the country's first new-build co-op, opened with a carnival. Architect: Bill Halsall of Wilkinson Hindle & Partners.

Planting ceremony to mark start of Hackney Grove Community Garden by Free Form Arts Trust.

1983 Tenants move into refurbished flats on the Lea View Estate, Hackney; the first refurbishment of local authority flats in which tenants were fully involved. Architects: Hunt Thompson.

1984 Go-ahead given for Town & Country Planning Association's Lightmoor Project for a resident-planned new town in Shropshire.

Coin Street Community Builders secure site for multi-million development on prime central London site.

1985 January: Government approves funding for £6.5 million mixed development by the Eldonian Housing Association, Liverpool. Architects: Wilkinson Hindle & Partners.

March: Jubilee Hall Development, Covent Garden, starts on site; a mixed development by a consortium of local voluntary and community organisations with developers Spychawek. Architects: Covent Garden Housing Project.

March: Houses at Roan Court, Macclesfield go on the market; the first private speculative estate in which purchasers could be involved in the design of their homes and help construct them. Architects and developers: Rod Hackney & Associates.

April: Colquhoun Street self-build scheme in Stirling starts on site providing the most comprehensive support system yet for self-builders without capital. Architects: Rod Hackney & Associates.

July: Opening of Lambeth Community Care Centre by Ted Cullinan Architects.

1986 June: Opening of Poplar Play Centre for the under fives; conceived and managed by local parents. Architects: Community Land Use.

September: Whitechapel Development Group's Community Plan for Whitechapel shortlisted by Tower Hamlets Council.

October: Opening of Hindle House Community Centre in Hackney where Hunt Thompson Associates are teamed up with Free Form Arts Trust.

1986 Home Office launches Urban Aid Programme, community development projects and education priority areas, two weeks after Enoch Powell's "Rivers of Blood" speech.

Town & Country Planning Act, 1968: required that the public must be adequately informed and consulted before approval of plans. Emphasised greater citizen participation in the whole planning process.

1969 Skeffington report published, *People and Places*: The world's first official government enquiry into the methods of public participation.

Housing Act, 1969: encouraged improvement of houses and neighbourhoods rather than wholesale demolition and rebuilding.

Conservative Government commissions inner area studies.

1973 Home Office sets up Urban Deprivation Unit.

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## Dateline

## This week

**Saturday**  
Building communities: the role of the architect, a half-day workshop organised by RIBA as part of the Building Communities Conference. Venue: RIBA, 66 Portland Place, London W1. Details: 01-580 5533.

**Tuesday**  
Lecture by Murray Grigor on Charles Mackintosh including films from the 60s. Venue: Charles Rennie Mackintosh Society, 870 Garscube Road, Glasgow G20. 12.20-2pm. Details: 041-946 6600.

**Tuesday**  
Lecture on landscape architect and architecture: A creative collaboration by Brian Clouston (landscape architect). Venue: Fine Art Lecture Theatre, University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Details: Peter Willis, School of Architecture, University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

**Tuesday**  
London burning — Tokyn rising, lecture by Nigel Coates of Ilrassun Coates. Venue: RIBA, 66 Portland Place.

London W1. 6.15pm. Details: RIBA, 01-580 5533.

**Tuesday-Wednesday**  
Practical claims evaluation, a two-day course organised by Legal Studies & Services. Venue: Gloucester Hotel, London SW7. Details: Jackie Lee, 01-236 4080.

**Wednesday**  
Planning law in action, a half-day course. Venue: South Bank Polytechnic, Faculty of the Built Environment, Garscube Road, London SW6 2JZ. Cost: £25. Details: Jill Reynolds, South Bank Polytechnic, 01-928 8989.

**Wednesday**  
Nurseries and plants, lecture by John Hurry. Organised by the Georgian Group. Venue: The Linnean Society Rooms, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London W1. Details: 01-377 1722.

**Wednesday**  
Urban landscape in Japan, lecture by Derek Lovejoy. Venue: Polytechnic of Central London, Marylebone Road, London W1. 6.15pm. Details: Len Harris or Lawrence Revill, 01-1234 (ext 3270 nr 3274).

**Thursday-Friday**  
The changing world of steel construction, national structural steel conference. Venue: Cumberland Hotel, Marble Arch, London W1. Cost: £207. Details: Conference Secretary, 29 High Street, Nutfield, Redhill, Surrey RH1 4HF. Tel: (073782) 2291.

**Thursday**  
Management of maintenance in health care buildings, symposium organised by the Institute of Hospital Engineering. Venue: Institute of Marine Engineers, Mark Lane, London EC3. 10am-4.30pm. Cost: Members £55, non-members £60. Details: Institute of Hospital Engineering, (0703) 823 196.

**Thursday**  
Sound insulation of buildings and building elements, one-day meeting organised by the Institute of Acoustics and the Building Research Establishment. Venue: Building Research Station, Caversham, Oxford OX4 2JR. Details: Building Research Station (0923) 674040.

**Thursday**  
Will the real trees please stand up? Lecture by professor Happold.



Until December 6 Günther Domenig, Steinhaus — Stonehouse and other projects. Venue: Architectural Association, 34-36 Bedford Square, London W1. Details: Architectural Association, 01 636 0974.

**University of Bath**  
Venue: The Huntington Centre, The Vineyards, Bath BA1 5NA. 6.15pm-8pm. Cost: Admission £2, concessions £1. Details: Mack-Brooks Conferences, Forum Place, Hatfield, Herts AL10 0RN. Tel: Hatfield (07072) 75641.

**Thursday-Friday**  
The conservation of old buildings, conference.

## Exhibitions

**Saturday — January 18**  
The Oldham Road, photographs by Charlie Meehan on the route to Oldham. Venue: Cornerhouse, 70 Oxford Street, Manchester. Details: Cornerhouse, 061-228 7621.

**Until December 3**  
Timber in architecture. Venue: Strathclyde University, Exhibition Gallery, Department of Architecture & Building Science. Details: Ong Mack Unles, Conant General, 031-226 5701.

**Tuesday — December 10**  
The work of Glasgow-based members of the Association of Consultant Architects. Venue: Istock Brickwork Design Centre, 13 Clairmont Gardens, Glasgow. Details: 041-332 3202.

**Tuesday — December 19**  
Interior views, exhibition of watercolours by Laurence Wallace. Venue: RIBA, 66 Portland Place, London W1. Details: RIBA 01-580 5533.

**Wednesday — December 20**  
Ruins of glamour, exhibition of ruins, an installation of work by Glyn Banks, Hannah Vowles, Ed Baxter, Simon Dickson, Karen Elliot, Gabriel Rick-Olson, Andy Hopkin, Tom McGlynn, Stefan Stoczkun. Venue: Chisenhale Studios, Chisenhale Road, London E3. Wednesday-Saturday 1-6pm. Details: 01-981 6617.

**Wednesday-Friday**  
Design moves, exhibition of the work of the MA degree students of furniture design and technology at the Buckinghamshire College. Venue: Buckinghamshire College, Queen Alexandra Road, High Wycombe. Details: Buckinghamshire College.

**Thursday-Friday**  
Changing world of steel construction, national conference organised by BCSA, BSC and the Steel Construction Institute. Venue: Cumberland Hotel, London W1. Details: Conference Secretary, 29 High Street, Nutfield, Redhill, Surrey. Tel: (073782) 2291.

**December 5-12**  
Exhibition of award-winning schemes in the RIBA president bronze and silver medals for architecture in education.

Venue: RIBA, 66 Portland Place, London W1. Details: 01-580 5533.

**Until December 6**  
The conservation of old buildings, exhibition organised by the Croydon Society. Venue: Croydon Central Library, Mini Walk, Croydon. Details: Robin Reddell 01-236 4080 text 1271.

**Until December 11**  
Flights of fancy, David Smith painted wood and mixed media. Venue: Crafts Council Shop, Victoria & Albert Museum, Kensington, London SW7. Monday-Thursday 10.00-5.00. Closed Friday, Saturday 10.00-5.30. Sunday 2.30-5.30. Details: Crafts Council, 12 Waterloo Place, London SW1 4AU. Tel: 01-030 4811.

**Until December 12**  
Photographs of 18th century French and English gardens by Geoffrey James. Venue: RIBA Heinz Gallery, 21 Portman Square, London W1. Monday-Friday 11am-5pm. Saturday 10am-1pm. Closed Sundays. Admission free. Details: 01-580 5533.

**Until December 19**  
Miroslav in design. Venue: The Design Centre, 28 Haymarket, London SW1W 4U. Details: 01-839 8000.

**Until December 19**  
Sculpture and bone drawings, exhibition of the work of Anne Kneale to mark the opening of the Henry Moore Gallery. Venue: The Henry Moore Gallery, Royal College of Art, Kensington Gore, London SW7 2EJ. Details: 01-584 5020.

**Until December 19**  
CAD microcomputers and design. Venue: Design Centre, 28 Haymarket, London SW1W 4U. Mondays and Tuesdays 10am-6pm, Wednesdays to Saturdays 10am-5pm, Sundays 1-6pm. Details: 01-839 8000.

**Until December 20**  
Landscape with ruins, exhibition of photographs of 18th century French and English gardens by Geoffrey James. Venue: RIBA Heinz Gallery, 21 Portman Square, London W1. Details: RIBA 01-580 5533.

**Until December 20**  
Julian Opie recent sculpture. Venue: Lisson Gallery, 66-68 Soho Street, London NW1. Details: 01-739 2066/262 1536.

**Until December 24**  
Exhibition of works from the National Art Library describing English country-houses. Venue: Victoria & Albert Museum, South Kensington, London SW7. Details: Mike Beaufort (0894) 470566.

**Until January 1**  
Design for growth, exhibition of 50 shortlisted products for the Mobil Design Award for small firms competition. Venue: Design Centre, 28 Haymarket, London SW1W 4U. Details: Design Council, 01-439 8000.

## People

Also Barnett & Lyall announce that Clifford Barnett has retired from the practice. The practice will be known as Alsop & Lyall.

Richard Watson Associates have moved to 8 Avenue Crescent, London W3 8EW. Tel: 01-892 0308/1258.

## Subscription details

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# THE EASICHECK ON BUILDING TRADES, By Henry Haverstock

## 7 STONEMASONRY

Although stonemasonry is now lumped together with brickwork (and with blockwork) under the general term masonry, stonemasonry is a distinct trade with separate training and organisations. Henry finds — to his surprise — that this is a young man's trade.

Comments (or corrections) welcomed — ring 01-267 7676

### SKILLS

Increased investment in the stone industry in the last 10 years has led to recruitment and new training schemes. Organised training at present concentrates on "banker" masons (the ones that hand shape and finish stone — see below) but the practical training schemes almost always involve some experience as a "free" mason. There is no nationally organised training scheme for the third group of masons who operate stone cutting machines for firms supplying hard stone (marble, slate, granite) slabs. The masons and the machine operators (sawyers and rubbers) may save their own courses, but they don't yet. Training starts with a three-year YTS block release course developed by the Construction Industry Training Board and run at Weymouth, Bath, and York, with two in London and one at Edinburgh. The first nine months are spent at the college then the students work in a stone firm returning to the college periodically for training. It is a practical training based on skill tests rather than exams. Passing the skill test after three years qualifies them for a mason's rate. About 80 per cent then go on to take City & Guild's exams for craft and advanced craft masonry.

The City & Guilds course involves:

- Lifting stones with lewis.
- Using power tools for boosted, dovetailed, dogged, broached and pitched finishes etc.
- Setting out and application of tangential lines to cusping and foling.
- Working mouldings (Cavetto, Ovolo, Cyma reverse, Scotia, Tonus, etc).

As can be seen masonry has many generally unfamiliar terms — most are defined in BS 6100 section 5.2 but beware of variation in local use of terms — Scotland has its own masonry language.

### MATERIALS

An enormous range of stone is available from quarries in the UK and abroad. It can be divided into four groups. The hardest (granite, marble, slate, etc) generally delivered to site in thin, cut and polished slabs. Monumental masons shape it and cut letters into it, but not much shaping is done on site.

- Freestone (limestone and sandstone) which can be cut in any direction.
- Dressing (limestone and sandstone) which can be cut in any direction.

- Walls and for mouldings, tracery and ornament.
- Carstone, flint, rubble, ragstone and smaller pieces of stone which is used (or only roughly cut) and built into walls (sometimes as chrysos without mortar).
- Roofing slate and stone fixed to overlap on roof pitches.

The freestones are the basis of most skills and most advice — but as they all vary a supervisor should check general advice with the quarry for a particular stone. Bedding and seasoning will vary and also what work and finishing the stone will take.

Compatibility of stones should be checked. Limestone and cast stone (particularly magnesian limestone) may stain and decay sandstone and brick below it. The Building Research Establishment has developed a test for durability (sodium sulphate crystallisation test) which can give a comparative rating for stones.

Hydraulic lime is used instead of cement in some restoration work. Detailed advice is given in the Ecclesiastical Architects & Surveyors' Association ref. Mortar can stain stones (see checkpoints).

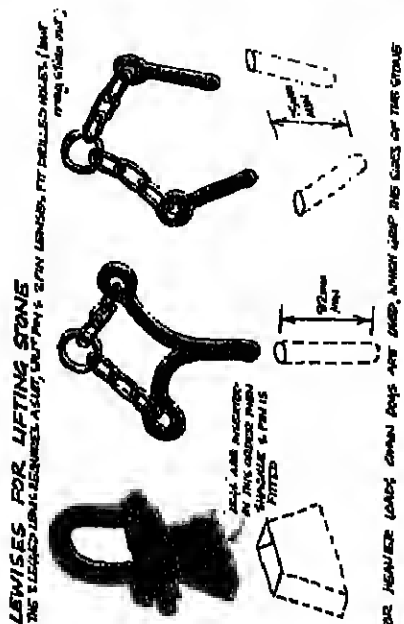
### TECHNIQUES

Most techniques are traditional but improved cutting and polishing has speeded up a lot of work. Banker masons now normally use power tools even for fine work. Pneumatic and flexible drive tools are available as well as the normal hand-held electric and petrol-driven skillsaws etc.

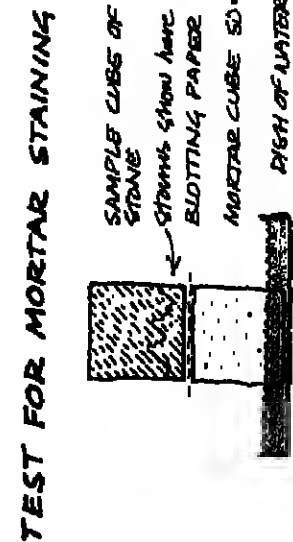
Diamond coated cutting edges "go through stone like cheese" but cost more than other tools. A 12 inch diamond-edged circular saw blade costs £280 (as opposed to £5 for a normal blade). The diamond blade will last much longer.

Smooth finishing of stones is helped by diamond-coated plastic foam rubbing slabs that are pliable enough to bend to the profile of mouldings. Computer-controlled cutters are used in workshops to produce all except rounded and ornamented stones. The cutting has also influenced the method of fitting stones. Where possible lewis that fit into circular holes are used, rather than those fitting into slots.

- See ref.
- Laser cleaning techniques have improved.
- Laser cleaning techniques are being developed.



LEWIS FOR LIFTING STONE  
THE LEWIS IS A U-SHAPED TOOL, USED TO GRASP THE CORNERS OF THE STONE.  
FOR REMOVAL, CHISELS ARE USED TO CUT THE STONE INTO THE DESIRED SHAPE.

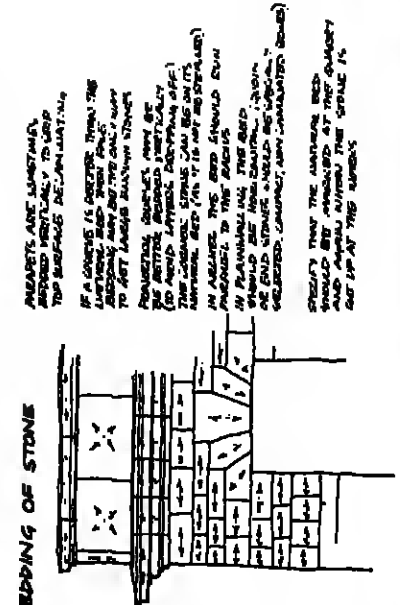


TEST FOR MORTAR STAINING  
SAMPLE CUBE OF STONE  
STAINING STONE AFTER MORTAR JOINTS  
BLOTTING PAPER  
MORTAR CUBE 50 x 50mm  
100mm OF WATER

- A simple test can be used to check whether mortar is likely to stain stones.
- Bedding requirements vary with source of stone. Some points that are often made are illustrated below.
- Beware of handwork to adjust fixing slots on machine-made slabs. Widening slots with a chisel can induce cracks — see report in Building on New Scotland Yard, October 31, 1986.

### CHECKPOINTS

- Durability — because most stone buildings are meant to last, workmanship flaws will eventually show up.
- Attachment — particularly for hard stone facings.
- Appearance — mistakes are not easy to cover up.
- Some stone changes colour. It may match well at first but repairs will stand out as the years go by. Check weathered samples with the stone to be repaired.
- Don't paint the back of stone with bitumen solution — it may stain the stone (see BS 8390 para. 16.5) and may bring salts out on the surface.
- Discuss selection of stone with the stonemason to see that efforts are being made to reject faulty stone — a cracked stone will not ring true when struck.
- Stone should not be laid in freezing conditions or rain.
- Wet stones for ashlar tend to slide on the bed.
- Only very small stones should be laid by hand, all others should be placed with lifting gear.



BEDDING OF STONE  
STONES SHOULD BE BEDDED ON A BED OF MORTAR, NOT ON A BED OF SAND OR ON A BED OF UNPREPARED GROUND.  
THE BEDDING OF STONE IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF THE STONEMASON'S WORK.  
IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT THE STONE IS BEDDED ON A BED OF MORTAR, NOT ON A BED OF SAND OR ON A BED OF UNPREPARED GROUND.  
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### REFERENCES

BRE Digest 177 Decay and conservation of stone masonry (revised 1984).  
BRE Digest 269 The selection of natural building stone.  
BRE Current Paper 1/81 Brethane stone preservation.  
BS 8390: 1976 Code of Practice for stone masonry (with amendment 4212 1986).  
BS 8270: Code of Practice for Cleaning and surface repair of buildings Part 1 1982. Natural stone, cast stone and clay and calcium silicate brick masonry.  
The natural stone directory £10 from Ealing Publications tel: (0628) 23562. Useful for sources of stone, for example it gives details of 280 quarries. Ealing Publications also produces a magazine for the stone trade called Stone Industries.  
The stone buildings of England by Alex Clifton-Taylor and A. S. Preston.  
SPAB pamphlet 5 Pointing stone and brick walling, pamphlet 4 Cleaning stone and brick — £1 each — tel: 01-377 1644.  
EASA (Ecclesiastical Architects and Surveyors' Association) publication. Mortars, plasters and renders in conservation 1982.  
BS 6100 Glossary of building and civil engineering terms Section 5.2 1984. Stone.  
Stone in building. Ashurst & Dimes Architectural Press 1977 — Henry's best reference but out of print.

### ORGANISATIONS & SPECIALISTS

Stone Federation — tel: 01-880 5888 — the trade association and a useful source of firms names.  
College of Masons — individual membership rather than firms — tel: 01-314 8363.  
Harris & Edgar — fixings (they have an excellent catalogue with clear illustrations) tel: 01-686 4391.  
Thibaut — French firm that produces computer-controlled cutters and polishers that will work to contours — UK agent Brian Waters: 061-967 7878.  
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Cathedral Works Organisation (Chichester) — tel: (0246) 784225. Set up to repair the cathedral and now quoting for outside work.

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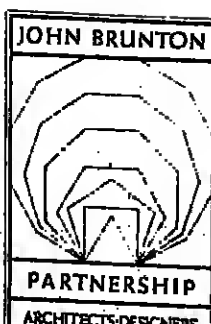
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Office in Sussex offer good career to Technicians, HNC or equivalent, varied work in pleasant surroundings.

Arch. Tech/Space Planner/CAD Operator, for clients in W.I. Go ahead! We're a busy office involved in returns of major city buildings.

Tel: 01-734 9857 or write: Technical Engineering & Improvement, 24 Westmoreland Road, London SW6 4TJ.

**LONDON ARCHITECT**

required urgently for small busy practice. 3-5 years post graduate experience. Ideal opportunity for someone with partner potential.

Please write with CV to: Will Spencer, Dalgleish & Partners, 10 Scarsdale Villas, London W8 0PR.

We are looking for a **Project Architect**

to join an established and growing architectural practice, for which a minimum of four years post-graduate experience is essential. Salary by negotiation.

Write to: N. H. Wilson RIBA, 1411 Wilton Road, London W1P 1LN. Tel: 01-380 8996.

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## MALLA

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**COUNCIL ARCHITECTS OF CAMBRIDGE**

require **ARCHITECT & EXPERIENCED TECHNICIAN**

to work in busy expanding office.

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Salary negotiable.

Apply in writing with CV to: The Sherlock Holmes Partnership, 18 The Market Place, Royston, Herts.

**ARCHITECTURAL/BUILDING SURVEYING ASSISTANT**

With experience, good draughtsmanship and sound construction knowledge for wide variety of work.

Send CV, and indication of required salary to: Raymond Ball, FRICS, Ingleside Wood, Chertsey, Surrey, GU31 1BA. Tel: 0181 881 5555.

**Architectural Technicians**

Wide variety of work offered. Places for younger and more experienced available. Write with CV or ring 0603-821377.

**BARTLEY GRAY AND PARTNERS**

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**HAYRON**

**ARCHITECTURAL HOT LINE**

Send C.V. or Call Frank Gold

01-748 3108

271 King St. W6 9LZ

**WYATT MACLAREN**

requires **ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT**

We work for community groups and some commercial and private clients. We offer good part 1 experience with local new build and refurbishment projects. Construction design ability is essential plus a flexible and professional approach. Please telephone 01-791 1509 or write to: 17-19 Brunel Way, London E11 6NP.

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64 Princedale Road, London W11 1. Phone 01-231 9383

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required for busy practice with interesting workload. Minimum 3 years' experience preferred.

Write with CV to: Stevenson Architects & Brown, 18 South Street, Burying, Surrey RM4 9SU. Tel: 0181 691 1796.

**GRADUATE ARCHITECT/TECHNICIAN**

required for small practice with work on both new and conservation projects. Immediate start, salary commensurate with age and experience.

Veronica O'Brien Partnership, 101 Inverness, Bath BA1 3DE. 0853 330137.

**ROE VIN**

requires **Architects & Architectural Technicians**

for small and contract positions in London, the Home Counties, Midlands, the North West and Yorkshire.

Phone Mike Usherworth on 081 888 3870 (day) or 081 426 8438 (evening) or C.V. to: Ronnie Ltd, 1 Redwood Lane, Bels Meads, W3 3TS (Agency).

**ARCHITECTS**

required with imagination and at least 4 years experience to work on a variety of new build and rehab projects.

Please apply to: Jacob Blacker Architects, 5 Shepherds Walk, London NW3 5UE. Tel: 01-794 4376 or 01-433 9739.

**Clerk of Works**

with experience of local council required for Essex contract.

Contact: Mrs Theaker, C.F. Services, Tel: 0268 774088.

**EXPERIENCED ARCHITECT & TECHNICIAN**

required with housing experience, to work on a variety of interesting projects. Apply in writing to: The Wilkinson, Hildesley, Hildesley, 98 Bels Lane, Liverpool L15 8AB.

**ARCHITECTS, TECHNICIANS**

**HERTS, CAMBS & SOUTH LONDON**

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CONTRACT OR PERMANENT

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Engineering Management Consultants, 5 Great Russell Street, London WC1B 3JH. Tel: 01-323 8921. Telex: 891112 and 892124. Cable: Emenco London W1.

**LEEDS FEDERATED HOUSING ASSOCIATION**

**ARCHITECT**

£10,369-£11,871/£12,397

required to work within a busy and creative team engaged on a wide variety of new build, rehabilitation, conversion and hostel schemes. If you are a man or woman who is:

- \* a creative designer;
- \* knowledgeable about construction and contracts;
- \* interested in social housing and community projects;

send for details and an application form to:

**Leeds Federated Housing Association Ltd**

Aspen House, 53-59 Mabgate, Leeds LS9 7DR. Tel: (0332) 458055.

LFHA is an equal opportunities employer and positively welcomes applications from all sections of the community.

**THIS JOB IS SUITABLE FOR JOB-SHARE**

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Design Band £17,000 - car benefit. Housing Up to £13,000. Commercial £11,000. Large Commercial £12,000. Birmingham. Housing Commercial £12,000. Birmingham. Commercial £12,000. Birmingham. Residential £13,000. Birmingham. Residential £12,000.

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City House, Midland Way, Nottingham NG1 6BH. Telephone: (0502) 472670. 24 hours.

**Project Management Engineer**

required for busy consulting engineers, based at Croydon. Capable of running a number of small contracts nationwide on a self-employed basis.

Call Peter Viron 01-886 7661.

**N.U.B.S. COMMUNITY ARCHITECTS**

Vacancy in North London for Part II level architectural student.

Ring 01-967 9421.

**Young enthusiastic Architect or Technician**

required by small Cambridge practice for commercial and residential work.

Please write to: T.J. Marshalls BA ARCH RIBA, The Studio, Church Street, Great Ouse, Sandy, Beds SG9 9AP.

**FORM DESIGN**

requires a young **Architect/Technician**

with sound technical ability to work on a wide range of interesting projects in their small but rapidly expanding office. Imaginative and able to work on own initiative essential. Send CV to: Mr J. Hudson, Form Design, 47-49 Chancery Lane, WC2A 1AF.

**ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT/TECHNICIAN**

to work on a variety of interesting projects in North and Central London. Please apply with CV to: 24-41 West Street, London W1P 9PP. Tel: 01-407 8396.

## PUBLIC SECTOR

## ELM BRIDGE

**SENIOR ARCHITECT**

Up to £13,693 per annum inclusive (PO 34-37) Plus — essential user car allowance Plus — up to £3,600 relocation package Plus — mortgage subsidy allowance Plus — flexi time

The successful applicant will be required to work to the highest professional standards on a full programme of new build and modernisation work. This will involve: attending briefings, site meetings, supervision of Clerk of Works, liaison with consultants and execution of working drawings etc.

If you are experienced in the above and are a Member of the Royal Institute of British Architects you would be pleased to hear from us.

For an informal discussion contact Mr R. Bernard, Head of Architecture and Estate Services on 0204 62111.

For an application form and further details contact the Personnel Section, Elmbridge Borough Council, Town Hall, New Zealand Avenue, Walton on Thames, Surrey. Tel: Walton on Thames 228444 ext 232 (answerphone service). Closing date: 19th December 1988.

**WEST LOTHIAN DISTRICT COUNCIL ARCHITECTS! QUANTITY SURVEYORS! BUILDING SURVEYORS!**

The District Council must achieve a general services, new build and modernisation programme of approximately 15 million pounds in the next 18 months, a substantial part of which is housing related.

The programme embraces all aspects of housing from partial demolition and total remodelling to the more traditional forms of refurbishment. Comprehensive tenant participation is a particular feature of the Council's policy. To help implement this work, we URGENTLY require Architects, Quantity Surveyors and Building Surveyors on both a permanent and contract basis and can guarantee a productive and rewarding experience for the successful applicants. Salaries will range from £9,834-£10,933 per annum and £11,271-£12,312 per annum depending upon the grading applied to the post.

The Department of Architectural Services is multi-disciplinary, incorporating architects, quantity surveyors, landscape architects and engineers and is situated at Whitehill near Bathgate.

For an application form and further information contact the Personnel Department, 64 Hopetoun Street, Bathgate or telephone Bathgate 633446/633384. The closing date for applications is Friday, 19th December, 1988. Candidates of any nature will result in the automatic disqualification of a candidate.

**BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL**

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**CITY ARCHITECT'S DEPARTMENT**

The growth of the City Council's Urban Regeneration Programme and a recent strengthening and reorganisation of Urban Regeneration Area Teams has required an increase in area based architectural services to cope with demands for an increased level of service. The work will be within an extensive programme on a variety of projects dealing with envelope, environmental and other community orientated schemes. It will involve operating in locally based teams and rapidly changing environment to cope with the needs of inner city improvement. These jobs are likely to appeal to those who have a particular interest in community architecture.

**ARCHITECTURAL TECHNICIANS**

(2 Jobs)

£7,311-£10,164

dependent upon level of experience

Reporting to the Senior Practice Group Architect or Area Team Architects to carry out the above work programme and it is proposed that the appointed staff will be based at either area team offices or work from a central office on an extensive shopping improvement programme. Ref. AT/UR

**ARCHITECTURAL TECHNICIAN**

(2 Jobs)

£6,606-£10,164

dependent upon level of experience

Birmingham is undertaking major remedial action and refurbishment schemes to housing of all kinds. This involves detailed research and technical surveys followed by extensive works on site.

The Department is seeking Architectural Technicians whose main tasks will be to assist with the identification, quantification, and supervision of such works.

The duties are specialised and require candidates to have a reasonable knowledge of building technology and construction. Ref. AT/PG10

Candidates for all jobs should be suitably qualified and appropriate experience would be an advantage.

Removal expenses and Casual Car User Allowance will be paid in appropriate circumstances.

Application forms (returnable by 19th December 1988) available from the Personnel Officer, City Architect's Department, Birmingham City Council, Baskerville House, City Centre, Broad Street, Birmingham B1 2SE. Telephone 091 261 3347.

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AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

**ARCHITECTURAL TECHNICIAN**

£9,513-£10,164

Under the supervision of an Architect to be a member of a team dealing with a wide variety of projects including the planning of building contracts from client departments brief to working drawings and contract documents. Part qualified member of BIAT or similar.

Application forms and further particulars from Borough Architect, Municipal Offices, Brighton Street, Wallasey, Wirral (051 638 7070) returnable by 12 December, 1988.

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**Planning and Transportation Department**

**URBAN DESIGN DIVISION**

**ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN GROUP**

The work of the Urban Design Division is concerned with the design and development of a wide range of urban, environmental and transport projects. The Environmental Design Group, working closely with the Traffic Design Group is responsible for the redesign of all the pedestrian open spaces and urban renewal schemes within the City, ranging from the redesign of Oxford Street, Leicester Square and Soho, to the refurbishment of subways, housing area improvement schemes and the landscaping of its many historic streets and squares. It is also responsible for the production of a well designed range of street furniture, guidance policies and advice on historic buildings, conservation areas and environmental design input into traffic improvement schemes.

Applicants should be suitably qualified and experienced. Please telephone Noel Hill — Head of the Environmental Design Group, on 01-788 2820 for further information.

**ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN PROJECTS TEAM**

**Principal Architect/Urban Designer** P.O. E (Ref. PT116)

Salary: £13,860-£15,048 pa inclusive

You would lead a team and be responsible for the initiation of a wide range of environmental improvement schemes and urban design studies associated with the work of the Team, including pedestrianisation, townscapes, highway improvements and open space schemes of the highest quality.

You must be a Chartered and Registered Architect or Chartered Landscape Architect with an Urban Design background and have good practical experience in implementing a range of projects in the urban landscape field.

**Senior Architect/Urban Designer** so.1 (Ref. PT118)

Salary: £11,984-£12,668 pa inclusive

You will assist the Principal Architect/Urban Designer on the initiation and design of a variety of environmental design projects. You should have a special interest in landscape design and street furniture design and should be qualified in architecture or urban design. Applicants with extensive experience and showing good practical experience in this urban design field would be considered.

**Senior Architect/Planner** so.1 (Ref. PT117)

You will assist the Principal Architect/Planner on the initiation and design of major environmental projects, including pedestrianisation, open space and townscapes schemes, also environmental design and advice input into traffic management and highway design schemes.

You should be a qualified architect and town planner or hold similar degree and have a good practical experience in this field of work.

Job descriptions available. 28 days annual leave plus 1 day off every 4 weeks. Modern offices near Victoria Station with restaurant facilities. Interest free loan for season ticket.

For an application form either telephone 01-834 5858 (24 hour Answerphone service) or call at the One Stop Service a floor at City Hall, Victoria Street, SW1E 6OP (quoting the appropriate reference number). Closing date: 12th December.

**CITY OF WESTMINSTER**

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**CTN86**

IN YOUR CITY

## PUBLIC SECTOR APPOINTMENTS

**ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

**URBAN RENEWAL DIVISION**

**IMPROVEMENT OFFICERS (WORKS INSPECTION)**

£5,901-£11,271

Birmingham's Urban Renewal Programme is known nationally and this year will spend more than £30m on the improvement of private sector houses and their environment.

We wish to appoint a substantial number of new jobs in this exciting and vital area. Ideally you will be qualified to BTEC Higher level or will have building or surveying qualification, with experience of house renovation and area based improvement. The career grade, will allow the appointment of staff with lesser experience.

Application forms (returnable by 16th December 1988), from Director of Environmental Services, Personnel Section, 120 Edmund Street, Birmingham B3 2EZ. Telephone 021 236 3290 REF 024/ES/151

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**LONDON BOROUGH OF HAVERING**

**BOROUGH ARCHITECT'S DIVISION**

**ARCHITECT/SENIOR ARCHITECT**

Grade P01 (a) Bar (d)

Salary £12,690-£13,632/BAR/£14,838 pa inc.

Applications are invited for the post of Architect/Senior Architect to handle a substantial and interesting workload in this busy office (the actual designation of the post will depend on the qualifications and experience of the successful candidate). Applicants must be Registered Architects and preferably Members of the RIBA with a record of good design, to make a significant contribution to the work of this multi-disciplinary organisation.

A car allowance is payable in each case of residence may be given for temporary accommodation, lodging allowance and return rail fares home, and on the purchase of a house in the area, legal costs and removal expenses.

The offices are close to the A12, A127, M25 and there is a modern model club, and sports facilities are available.

For an application form and further information, telephone Romford 46040 extension 2311 or 2312. Completed application forms are to be returned to the Borough Architect, Technical Offices, Spilley Road, Herold Hill, Romford, Essex by 22nd December 1988.

**Arundel District**

**TECHNICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

**Architectural/Technical Assistant**

£11,307 - £12,009

We have an interesting opportunity for a talented and enthusiastic person with drawing skills to undertake a wide range of work covering education, leisure, social services, housing and other projects ranging from small alterations to new works of £1m or more.

For this post a willingness and an ability to learn and demonstrate the appropriate qualities will be rewarded with opportunities for the post holder to carry through his/her own projects from inception to completion. Experience of C.A.D. would be advantageous.

Casual car user allowance payable with car loan facilities and a generous relocation allowance will be paid in appropriate circumstances.

Application forms and further details obtainable from Borough Architect and Planning Officer, Technical Offices, 24 Denmark Road, Chesham, Surrey. Tel: 01-681 8878.

Closing date 12 December 1988

**Guildford**

**BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**Guildford**

An historic borough with much to offer: a scene of outstanding natural beauty; abundant sport and leisure facilities; good shopping; popular theatre. The very best of a county town. And with such easy access to London.

**Guildford**

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**Guildford**

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